2013 State Teacher Policy Yearbook

Pennsylvania





Acknowledgments

STATES

State education agencies remain our most important partners in this effort, and their gracious cooperation has helped to ensure the factual accuracy of the final product. Every state formally received a draft of the *Yearbook* in July 2013 for comment and correction; states also received a final draft of their reports a month prior to release. All but two states responded to our inquiries. While states do not always agree with our recommendations, their willingness to engage in dialogue and often acknowledge the imperfections of their teacher policies is an important step forward.

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Executive Summary

The 2013 State Teacher Policy Yearbook includes the National Council on Teacher Quality's (NCTQ) full review of the state laws, rules and regulations that govern the teaching profession. This year's report measures state progress against a set of 31 policy goals focused on helping states put in place a comprehensive framework in support of preparing, retaining and rewarding effective teachers.

Pennsylvania at a Glance



Overall 2013 Yearbook Grade

Overall 2011 Yearbook Grade: D+

Area Grades	2013	2011
Area 1 Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers	С	С
Area 2 Expanding the Teaching Pool	C-	С
Area 3 Identifying Effective Teachers	С	D+
Area 4 Retaining Effective Teachers	D+	D^1
Area 5 Exiting Ineffective Teachers	D-	F

Goal Breakdown	2013
★ Best Practice	0
Fully Meets	3
Nearly Meets	4
Partially Meets	11
Meets Only a Small Part	7
O Does Not Meet	6

	Progress on Goals Since 2011	
•	Progress has increased	8
(2)	No change in progress	20
•	Progress has decreased	3

¹ State teacher pension policy is no longer included in the State Teacher Policy Yearbook. So that Area 4 grades can be compared, 2011 grades have been recalculated to exclude the pension goals. Overall 2011 grades were not recalculated, as the impact was negligible.

How is **Pennsylvania** Faring?

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepa	ared Te	achers	Page 5
Admission into Teacher Preparation Elementary Teacher Preparation	•	Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science Special Education Teacher Preparation	e ()
Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction		Assessing Professional Knowledge	
Teacher Preparation in Mathematics		Student Teaching	
Middle School Teacher Preparation Secondary Teacher Preparation		Teacher Preparation Program Accountabilit	у С
Policy Strengths			
Middle school teachers may not teach on a generalist license, and they must appropriat single-subject content test.		■ The state does not offer a K-12 speci certification.	ial education
Policy Weaknesses			
 Teacher candidates are not required to pass academic proficiency as a criterion for admit teacher preparation programs. Elementary teacher candidates are not required to pass a content test with individually sconsubtests in each of the core content areas, imathematics. Although the state requires teacher preparaprograms to address the science of reading, not require elementary teacher candidates an adequate test to ensure knowledge of efficient instruction. 	uired red including ation , it does to pass	 Some secondary science and social stare not required to pass content test discipline they are licensed to teach. Only some new teachers are required pedagogy test. There are no requirements to ensure teachers are placed with cooperating were selected based on evidence of each of the teacher preparation program app does not hold programs accountable the teachers they produce. 	that student teachers who offectiveness.
Area 2: Expanding the Pool o	f Teacl	ners	Page 51
Alternate Route Eligibility		Part-Time Teaching Licenses	
Alternate Route Preparation		Licensure Reciprocity	
Alternate Route Usage and Providers			
Policy Strengths			
■ There are no restrictions on providers, altho	ough some	alternate routes do have limitations on usage.	
Policy Weaknesses			
		The state offers a license that allows	•
Admission criteria for alternate routes to ce are not consistently selective or flexible for nontraditional candidates.	•	to teach part time, but only in suppo teacher.	

How is **Pennsylvania** Faring?

State Date Systems	Таналия	
State Data Systems Evaluation of Effectiveness	Tenure Licensure Advancement	
•		
Frequency of Evaluations	Equitable Distribution	
Policy Strengths		
■ Objective evidence of student learning is the	Licensure advancemen	t is based on teacher
preponderant criterion of teacher evaluations		
All teachers must be evaluated annually.	School-level teacher end reported.	fectiveness data are publicly
Policy Weaknesses	reported.	
■ The state data system does not have the capa	city Tenure decisions are no	ot connected to evidence of
to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.	teacher effectiveness.	or connected to evidence of
Avec 4. Detaining Effective Teac	da a ura	Do go 102
Area 4: Retaining Effective Teac	iners	Page 103
Induction	Compensation for Prior Wo	ork Experience
Professional Development (Differential Pay	
Pay Scales (Performance Pay	
Policy Strengths		
All new teachers receive mentoring.	■ Districts are given full a	authority for how teachers are
Teachers who receive unsatisfactory evaluation		not discouraged from basing
placed on structured improvement plans.	salary schedules solely advanced degrees.	on years of experience and
		dditional compensation for
	working in shortage su	bject areas.
Policy Weaknesses		
Professional development is not aligned with from teachers' evaluations.		port performance pay or on for relevant prior work in high-need schools.
Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teac	hers	Page 127
Extended Emergency Licenses (Reductions in Force	
Dismissal for Poor Performance		
Policy Weaknesses		
 Teachers can teach for up to three years before 	e having Seniority. rather than a	teacher's performance in the
to pass required subject-matter tests.		d in determining which teachers

Figure A	Overall State Grade 2013	Overall State Grade 2011	Overall State Grade 2009
Florida	B+	В	С
Louisiana	В	C-	C-
Rhode Island	В	B-	D
Tennessee	В	B-	C-
Arkansas	B-	С	C-
Connecticut	B-	C-	D+
Georgia	B-	С	C-
Indiana	B-	C+	D
Massachusetts	B-	С	D+
Michigan	B-	C+	D-
New Jersey	B-	D+	D+
New York	B-	С	D+
Ohio	B-	C+	D+
Oklahoma	B-	B-	D+
Colorado	C+	С	D+
Delaware	C+	С	D
Illinois	C+	С	D+
Virginia	C+	D+	D+
Kentucky	С	D+	D+
Mississippi	С	D+	D+
North Carolina	С	D+	D+
Utah	С	C-	D
Alabama	C-	C-	C-
Arizona	C-	D+	D+
Maine	C-	D-	F
Minnesota	C-	C-	D-
Missouri	C-	D	D
Nevada	C-	C-	D-
PENNSYLVANIA	C-	D+	D
South Carolina	C-	C-	C-
Texas	C-	C-	C-
Washington West Virginia	C-	C- D+	D+ D+
California	D+	D+ D+	D+ D+
District of Columbia	D+	D+ D	D-
Hawaii	D+	D-	D-
Idaho	D+	D+	D-
Maryland	D+	D+	D
New Mexico	D+	D+	D+
Wisconsin	D+	D	D
Alaska	D	D	D
lowa	D	D	D
Kansas	D	D	D-
New Hampshire	D	D-	D-
North Dakota	D	D	D-
Oregon	D	D-	D-
Wyoming	D	D	D-
Nebraska	D-	D-	D-
South Dakota	D-	D	D
Vermont	D-	D-	F
Montana	F	F	F

How to Read the Yearbook

GOAL SCORE

The extent to which each goal has been met:



Best Practice



Fully Meets



Nearly Meets



Partially Meets



Meets Only a Small Part



Does Not Meet

PROGRESS INDICATOR

Whether the state has advanced on the goal, policy has remained unchanged or the state has lost ground on that topic:



Goal progress has increased since 2011



Goal progress has decreased since 2011



Goal progress has remained the same since 2011

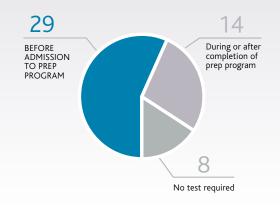
BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



Indicates the criteria to meet the goal have been raised since the 2011 Yearbook.

READING CHARTS AND TABLES:

Strong practices or the ideal policy positions for the states are capitalized:

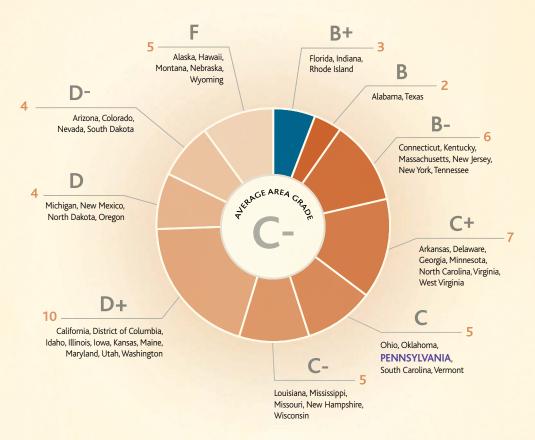


Area 1 Summary



How States are Faring on Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- 1-A: Admission into Teacher Preparation
- 1-B: Elementary Teacher Preparation
- 1-C: Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction
- 1-D: Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics
- 1-E: Middle School Teacher Preparation

- 1-F: Secondary Teacher Preparation
- 1-G: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science
- 1-H: Special Education Teacher Preparation
- 1-I: Assessing Professional Knowledge
- 1-J: Student Teaching
- 1-K: Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

Goal A – Admission into Teacher Preparation

The state should require teacher preparation programs to admit only candidates with strong academic records.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should require teacher candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, writing and mathematics skills as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs.
- 2. All preparation programs in a state should use a common admissions test to facilitate program comparison, and the test should allow comparison of applicants to the general college-going population. The selection of applicants should be limited to the top half of that population.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-A Analysis: Pennsylvania







ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania does not require prospective teachers to pass a test of academic proficiency as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs. Rather, the basic skills assessment requirement is delayed until teacher candidates are ready to apply for licensure. The state does require applicants to teacher preparation programs to have at least a 3.0 GPA in prior college coursework. Programs may admit applicants with a 2.8 GPA and qualifying scores on the basic skills test or SAT/ACT.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Code 354.31

RECOMMENDATION

Require that teacher preparation programs screen candidates for academic proficiency prior to admission.

While Pennsylvania's GPA requirement sets a more rigorous bar than most states have, the state should also require candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, mathematics and writing prior to program admission.

Require that programs use a common admissions test normed to the general college-bound population.

Pennsylvania should require programs to use an assessment that demonstrates that candidates are academically competitive with all peers, regardless of their intended profession. Requiring a common test normed to the general college population would allow for the selection of applicants in the top half of their class while also facilitating program comparison.

 Consider requiring candidates to pass subject-matter tests as a condition of admission into teacher programs.

In addition to ensuring that programs require a measure of academic performance for admission, Pennsylvania might also want to consider requiring content testing prior to program admission as opposed to at the point of program completion. Program candidates are likely to have completed coursework that covers related test content in the prerequisite classes required for program admission. Thus, it would be sensible to have candidates take content tests while this knowledge is fresh rather than wait two years to fulfill the requirement, and candidates lacking sufficient expertise would be able to remedy deficits prior to entering formal preparation.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania indicated that the Department of Education is currently working with the Pennsylvania House of Representatives on legislation requiring the basic skills assessment to be taken and passed prior to formal admission into an educator preparation program. The test assesses proficiency in reading, writing and mathematics.

The state further indicated that the Department of Education has established a policy that allows candidates to use their SAT/ACT scores as an alternative to the PAPA test if they achieved a score of no less than 1550 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) with no individual score of less than 500. A composite score of 23 on the American College Test Plus Writing accompanied by a combined English/Writing score of 22 and a Math score of 21 will exempt a student from taking the PAPA.

Supporting Research

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/testing_requirements/8638

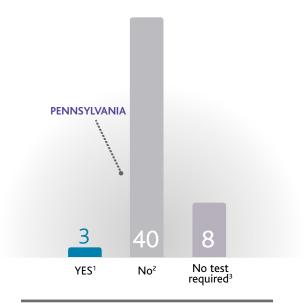


EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

For admission to teacher preparation programs, **Rhode Island** and **Delaware** require a test of academic proficiency normed to the general collegebound population rather than a test that is normed just to prospective teachers. Delaware also requires teacher candidates to have a 3.0 GPA or be in the top 50th percentile for general education coursework completed. Rhode Island also requires an average cohort GPA of 3.0, and beginning in 2016, the cohort mean score on nationally-normed tests such as the ACT, SAT or GRE must be in the top 50th percentile. In 2020, the requirement for the mean test score will increase from the top half to the top third.

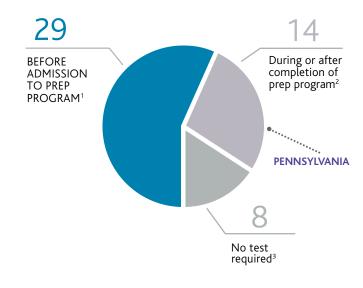
Figure 2

Do states require an assessment of academic proficiency that is normed to the general college-going population?



- 1. Strong Practice: Delaware, Rhode Island, Texas
- Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Ohio, South Dakota, Wyoming

Figure 3
When do states test teacher candidates' academic proficiency?



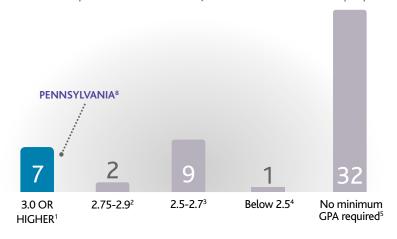
- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- Alaska, California, District of Columbia, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Vermont
- 3. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Ohio, South Dakota, Wyoming

Figure 4		Test nomed to teach	Son to prep program Test to meet to teach Considerates on teach	Weeking only dument of the program o
Do states measure the	Š	128/		2 % S
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teacher candidates?	74 O	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \		of p.
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Wyoming				
	3	26	14	8

Candidates in Oklahoma also have the option of gaining admission with a 3.0 GPA.

Figure 5

Do states require a minimum GPA for admission to teacher prep?



- 1. Strong Practice: Delaware, Mississippi⁶, New Jersey⁶, Oklahoma⁷, Pennsylvania⁸, Rhode Island⁶, Utah
- 2. Kentucky, Texas
- 3. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut⁹, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, South Carolina, South Dakota, Wisconsin¹⁰
- 4. Louisiana
- Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 6. The 3.0 GPA requirement is a cohort average; individual candidates must have a 2.75 GPA.
- 7. Candidates in Oklahoma also have the option of gaining admission by passing a basic skills test.
- Students can also be admitted with a combination of a 2.8 GPA and qualifying scores on the basic skills test or SAT/ACT.
- 9. Connecticut requires a B- grade point average for all undergraduate courses.
- 10. The GPA admission requirement is 2.5 for undergraduate and 2.75 for graduate programs.

Goal B − Elementary Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that its teacher preparation programs provide elementary teachers with a broad liberal arts education, providing the necessary foundation for teaching to the Common Core or similar state standards.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should require all elementary teacher candidates, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all core subjects.
- 2. The state should require that its approved teacher preparation programs deliver a comprehensive program of study in broad liberal arts coursework. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 36 credit hours to ensure appropriate depth in the core subject areas of English, science, social studies and fine arts. (*Mathematics preparation for elementary teachers is discussed in Goal 1-D.*)
- 3. The state should require elementary teacher candidates to complete a content specialization in an academic subject area. In addition to enhancing content knowledge, this requirement ensures that prospective teachers have taken higher level academic coursework.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-B Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal 🕟 Bar Raised for this Goal 👔 Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania has adopted the Common Core State Standards, which represent an effort to significantly raise the standards for the knowledge and skills American students will need for college readiness and global competitiveness. The state has made some progress toward ensuring that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach the rigorous content associated with these standards.

All elementary teacher candidates are now required to pass the newly developed Pennsylvania Educator Certification Test (PECT), which is comprised of two content modules. The first module includes language and literacy development (66 percent), and social studies, arts and humanities (34 percent). The second includes math, science and health (100 percent).

Pennsylvania does not require its elementary teacher candidates to earn an academic content specialization.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Educator Certification Test www.pa.nesinc.com Pennsylvania Code 22 Sections 354.23 General Standards and Specific Program Guidelines

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/institutional_program_approval/8817

RECOMMENDATION

Require all elementary teacher candidates to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all subjects.

Pennsylvania should ensure that its elementary content test is appropriately aligned with the Common Core State Standards and require separate, meaningful passing scores for each area on the test. Although Pennsylvania is on the right track by administering a two-part licensing test, thus making it harder for teachers to pass if they fail some subject areas, the state is encouraged to further strengthen its policy and require separate passing scores for each core subject on its multiple-subject test.

Ensure that teacher preparation programs deliver a comprehensive program of study in broad liberal arts coursework.

Pennsylvania should either articulate a more specific set of standards or establish comprehensive coursework requirements for elementary teacher candidates that align with the Common Core State Standards to ensure that candidates will complete coursework relevant to the common topics in elementary grades. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 36 credit hours in the core subject areas of English, science, social studies and fine arts. Pennsylvania requires all candidates to complete at least six semester credit hours of college-level English composition and literature. (For math requirements, see Goal 1-D.) The state also articulates a broad range of competencies for programs to apply in preparing elementary candidates. Pennsylvania addresses many sensible areas, such as earth/space, life and physical sciences; world, national, state and local history; and basic concepts in art, music, dance and drama. These are all important curricular areas, but the standards are far too ambiguous to hold either programs or teachers accountable. These competencies also appear to combine subject matter content and pedagogy. Pennsylvania articulates standards within the framework of its new PECT content test, which includes more detail about the content elementary teachers should know. However, crucial areas such as American and world literature and art history are missing.

Require elementary teacher candidates to complete a content specialization in an academic subject area.

In addition to enhancing content knowledge, this requirement would ensure that prospective teachers in Pennsylvania take higher-level academic coursework. The requirement also provides an important safeguard in the event that candidates are unable to successfully complete clinical practice requirements. With an academic concentration (or better still a major or minor), candidates who are not ready for the classroom and do not pass student teaching can still be on track to complete a degree.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania contended that although it does not require a subject-matter test for elementary education, the PECT PK-4 modules include content testing in the following areas:

- Module 1: Child Development, Learning and Assessment; and Collaboration and Professionalism;
- Module 2: Language and Literacy Development; and Social Studies, Arts and Humanities; and
- Module 3: Mathematical Concepts and Learning; and Science and Health.

The state added that its PK-4 program curriculum includes broad liberal arts coursework. It also noted that candidates are no longer required to complete a prescribed number of credits for coursework and field experiences but rather are required to meet and be assessed on the competencies found in the PK-4 Framework.

Pennsylvania also asserted that it did not adopt the Common Core State Standards but rather adopted the Pennsylvania Core Standards on September 12, 2013.

Finally, the state pointed out that its 4-8 certificate requires at least one concentration in math, language arts, science or social studies, as well as a passing score on a content test in the concentration area. Candidates who choose to have two areas of concentration must choose either math or science as one area. Pennsylvania added that it has set very specific competencies in all content areas, and the candidate must take three modules in addition to the modules for the area(s) of concentration.

Supporting Research

PK-4 Test

http://www.pa.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/PA006_TestPage.html

Program Guidelines

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_123236_893942_0_0_18/Prek4Guidelines.pdf

LAST WORD

The state's response acknowledges that the PECT PK-4 assessment is not an adequate content test. While the test objectives require candidates to understand the fundamental concepts in the areas of social studies, math and science, the focus is pedagogical knowledge rather than subject matter. Pennsylvania is strongly urged to require all teachers of elementary grades to earn a passing score on a rigorous test that adequately measures subject matter knowledge in each of the core content areas.

Lementary content test with Elementary content test with ELMENTARY CONTENT
TEST WITH SEPARATE PASSIN Figure 7 SCORE FOR EACH SUBJECT Do states ensure that elementary teachers know core content? Alabama П П Alaska П П Arizona П Arkansas П П П California Colorado П П П П П Connecticut П Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho П П П Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana П Maine П П П Maryland Massachusetts П П П Michigan П П П Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada П П New Hampshire New Jersey П П П New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon **PENNSYLVANIA** П П Rhode Island П П П South Carolina П South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah П П П Vermont Virginia П Washington West Virginia П П П Wisconsin Wyoming 19 9 19 4



TOTAL STATE OF BEST PRACTICE

Indiana ensures that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades possess the requisite subjectmatter knowledge before entering the classroom. Not only are elementary teacher candidates required to pass a content test comprised of independently scored subtests, but the state also requires its early childhood education teachers—who are licensed to teach up through grade 3—to pass a content test comprised of four subtests. Elementary teacher candidates in Indiana must also earn either a major or minor in an academic content area.

1. Alaska does not require testing for initial licensure.

2. The required test is a questionable assessment of content knowledge, instead emphasizing methods and instructional strategies.

4. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass content test.

^{3.} Massachusetts and North Carolina require a general curriculum test that does not report scores for each elementary subject. A separate score is

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Texas					
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Wisconsin					
Wyoming					

These states do not offer a standalone early childhood certification that includes elementary grades or the state's early childhood certification is the de facto license to teach elementary grades.
 May pass either multiple subjects (subscores) or content knowledge (no subscores) test.

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Indiana			*		П		*	*	*			*	*	*	П	*		*
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Minnesota			*	*		*	*	*	*			*						
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Washington			*			*	*	*	*			*				*		*
West Virginia																		
Wisconsin			*			*		*	*	*	*		*					
Wyoming					ш	ш						Ш	ш	ш	ш			

Figure 10
What subjects does Alabama expect elementary teachers to know?

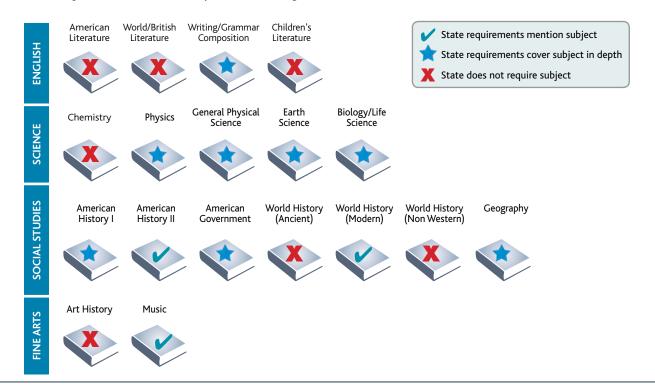
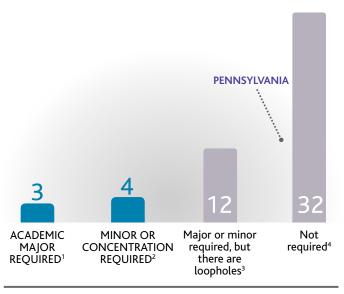


Figure 11

Do states expect elementary teachers to complete an academic concentration?



- 1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Massachusetts, New Mexico
- 2. Strong Practice: Indiana, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Oklahoma
- 3. California, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia
 - These states require a major, minor or concentration but there is no assurance it will be in an academic subject area.
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Goal C – Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction

The state should ensure that new elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require that new elementary teachers, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, pass a rigorous test of reading instruction in order to attain licensure. The design of the test should ensure that prospective teachers cannot pass without knowing the five instructional components shown by scientifically based reading research to be essential to teaching children to read.
- 2. The state should require that teacher preparation programs prepare candidates in the science of reading instruction.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-C Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Nearly Meets Goal Raised for this Goal Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania's newly designed elementary content test addresses the science of reading and is divided into subtests, but because the reading questions are combined with other topics without a specific reading subscore, it does not amount to a stand-alone reading test.

Pennsylvania also addresses the science of reading in its general standards elementary guidelines for preparation programs.

Supporting Research

PECT Test Requirements http://www.pa.nesinc.com

Standards

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/institutional_program_approval/8817

RECOMMENDATION

Require teacher candidates to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.

Pennsylvania should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared in the science of reading instruction before entering the classroom. The state is on the right track in assessing elementary teachers' knowledge of the science of reading. However, to clearly test knowledge and skills related to the science of reading, the test must not only adequately address the five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension, but it should also report a subscore for the science of reading specifically. Elementary teachers who do not possess the minimum knowledge in this area should not be eligible for licensure.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania asserted that PK-4 candidates are tested through the PECT for language and literacy development. Framework guidelines require that candidates be assessed on a total of 127 skills related to reading.

Supporting Research

Competencies

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_123236_893942_0_0_18/Prek4Guidelines.pdf

Figure 13		PARATIOI UIREMEN	rc /	TEST REQUIR	
Do states ensure that	ي ي	y / 6		F57	
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Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
District of Columbia					
Florida					
Georgia					
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Kansas					
Kentucky					
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Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
\\ <i>(</i>					
Wyoming	□ 25	26	□ 17	□ 16	18



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

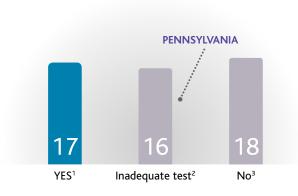
Fifteen states meet this goal by requiring that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades pass comprehensive assessments that specifically test the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Independent reviews of the assessments used by Connecticut and Massachusetts, confirm that these tests are rigorous measures of teacher candidates' knowledge of scientifically based reading instruction.

^{1.} Alabama's reading test spans the K-12 spectrum.

^{2.} Teachers have until their second year to pass the reading test.

Figure 14

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of the science of reading?

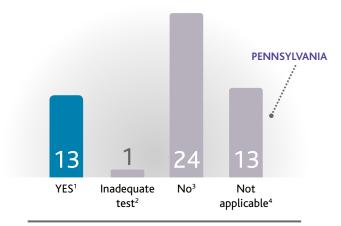


- Strong Practice: Alabama⁴, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Maine, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont
- Alaska, Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, Wyoming
- 4. Alabama's reading test spans the K-12 spectrum.
- $5. \, \text{Teachers}$ have until their second year to pass the reading test.

Figure 15

Do states measure knowledge of the science of

reading for early childhood teachers who can teach elementary grades?



- Strong Practice: Alabama^s, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- Idaho
- Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, lowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wyoming
- 4. Alaska, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas These states do not offer a standalone early childhood certification that includes elementary grades or the state's early childhood certification is the de facto license to teach elementary grades.
- 5. Alabama's reading test spans the K-12 spectrum

Goal D – Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics

The state should ensure that new elementary teachers have sufficient knowledge of the mathematics content taught in elementary grades.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should require teacher preparation programs to deliver mathematics content of appropriate breadth and depth to elementary teacher candidates. This content should be specific to the needs of the elementary teacher (i.e., foundations, algebra and geometry with some statistics).
- The state should require elementary teacher candidates, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, to pass a rigorous test of mathematics content in order to attain licensure.
- Such test can also be used to test out of course requirements and should be designed to ensure that prospective teachers cannot pass without sufficient knowledge of mathematics.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-D Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Meets a Small Part Goal 🕟 Bar Raised for this Goal 🙌 Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania now requires elementary teacher candidates to pass all three modules of the Pennsylvania Educator Certification Test (PECT). Although the state's new assessment is now divided into subtests, module three combines math with science and health, without reporting an individual math subscore. Because the test does not report a specific math score, a teacher candidate could answer many math questions incorrectly and still pass the test.

The framework for Pennsylvania's newly adopted test covers numbers and operations, data analysis, and basic concepts of geometry and algebra. However, the standards are not specifically geared to meet the needs of elementary teachers.

Supporting Research

PECT Test Requirement www.pa.nesinc.com

Grades PK-4 Program Guidelines

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=506706&mode=2

RECOMMENDATION

Require all teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass a rigorous mathematics assessment.

Although Pennsylvania is on the right track in requiring an elementary assessment with subtests, the state's efforts fall short by combining math with other subjects and not reporting a specific subscore for math. Pennsylvania should strengthen its policy by testing mathematics content with a rigorous assessment tool, such as the test required in Massachusetts that evaluates mathematics knowledge beyond an elementary school level and challenges candidates' understanding of underlying mathematics concepts. Such a test could also be used to allow candidates to test out of coursework requirements. Teacher candidates who lack minimum mathematics knowledge should not be eligible for licensure.

 Require teacher preparation programs to provide mathematics content specifically geared to the needs of elementary teachers.

Pennsylvania must ensure that new teachers are prepared to teach the mathematics content required by the Common Core State Standards. Although Pennsylvania's subject-matter test requires some knowledge in key areas of mathematics, the state should require teacher preparation programs to provide mathematics content specifically geared to the needs of elementary teachers. This includes specific coursework in foundations, algebra and geometry, with some statistics coursework.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania asserted that it did not adopt the Common Core State Standards but rather adopted the Pennsylvania Core Standards on September 12, 2013.

The state further contended that the PK-4 candidate is required to take the PECT PK-4 test, which includes mathematical concepts and learning. In addition, candidates must also be assessed on a total of 88 mathematical concepts.

Supporting Research

http://www.pa.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/PA006_TestPage.html

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_123236_893942_0_0_18/Prek4Guidelines.pdf

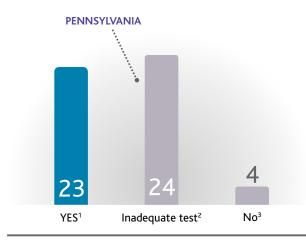


** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Eight states meet this goal by requiring that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades earn a passing score on an independently scored mathematics subtest. **Massachusetts's** MTEL mathematics subtest continues to set the standard in this area by evaluating mathematics knowledge beyond an elementary school level and challenging candidates' understanding of underlying mathematics concepts.

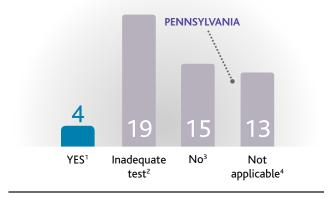
Figure 17

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas⁴, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia
- Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Alaska⁵, Hawaii, Montana, Ohio⁶
- 4. Test is not yet available for review.
- 5. Testing is not required for initial licensure.
- 6. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass an adequate content test.

Figure 18
Do states measure knowledge of math of early childhood teachers who can teach elementary grades?



- 1. Strong Practice: Florida, Indiana, New York, Virginia
- Alabama, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin
- 3. Arizona, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 4. Alaska, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas These states do not offer a standalone early childhood certification that includes elementary grades or the state's early childhood certification is the de facto license to teach elementary grades.

→ Goal E — Middle School Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should require that new middle school teachers pass a licensing test in every core academic area that they are licensed to teach.
- 2. The state should not permit middle school teachers to teach on a generalist license that does not differentiate between the preparation of middle school teachers and that of elementary teachers.
- 3. The state should encourage middle school candidates who are licensed to teach multiple subjects to earn minors in two core academic areas rather than earn a single major. Middle school candidates licensed to teach a single subject area should earn a major in that area.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-E Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania offers middle school candidates two design options. The first option is the completion of one concentration (30 credit hours) in either English/language arts and reading, math, science or social studies. Candidates must then complete 12 credit hours in each of the remaining three areas. The second option is the completion of a concentration in two content areas. The state recommends a minimum of 21 credits in each content-area concentration, with 12 credits in each of the two remaining content areas.

All new middle school teachers in Pennsylvania are also required to pass a Praxis II single-subject content test to attain licensure.

Commendably, Pennsylvania does not offer a K-8 generalist license.

Supporting Research

Praxis Test Requirement www.ets.org

Coursework Requirements

www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/institutional_program_approval/8817

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure meaningful content tests.

To ensure meaningful middle school content tests, Pennsylvania should make certain its passing scores reflect high levels of performance.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania noted that its system is based on competencies and does not require credits. There is a model program in the guidelines but the credit numbers are only examples. Programs are reviewed on evidence of covering the competencies, and the tests are aligned to the same competencies, which are based on the PK-12 standards. The number of credits depends on the program design.

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Do states distinguish	, ,o	offere d ds	
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Arkansas			
California		2	
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			Ш
Idaho			
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lowa			
Kansas			
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Maryland			
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West Virginia			
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Wyoming			
	31	5	15
	<i>3</i> I	2	10



***** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Georgia, Mississippi, New Jersey and South Carolina ensure that all middle school teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach middle school-level content. None of these states offers a K-8 generalist license and all require passing scores on subject-specific content tests. Georgia, Mississippi and South Carolina explicitly require at least two content-area minors, and New Jersey requires a content major along with a minor for each additional area of certification.

^{1.} Offers 1-8 license.

^{2.} California offers a K-12 generalist license for all self-contained classrooms.

^{3.} With the exception of mathematics.

^{4.} Oregon offers 3-8 license.

Figure 21		No, test does not tepor	z /	/
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have to pass an appropriate				test / III
content test in every core		oesn	ense /	
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to teach?	75	84.69, No.	3/20	10 Kg
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Arkansas				
California				2
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Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia				
Florida				
Georgia				
Hawaii			3	
Idaho				
Illinois Indiana				
Indiana				
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- Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure.
 Candidates teaching multiple subjects only have to pass the elementary test. Single-subject credential does not
- require test.

 3. For K-8 license, Idaho also requires a single-subject test.
- 4. Maryland allows elementary teachers to teach in departmentalized middle schools if not less than 50 percent of the teaching assignment is within the elementary education grades.
- 5. For nondepartmentalized classrooms, generalist in middle childhood education candidates must pass new assessment with three subtests.
- 6. Teachers may have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 7. Candidates opting for middle-level endorsement may either complete a major or pass a content test.

Goal F − Secondary Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require that secondary teachers pass a licensing test in every subject they are licensed to teach.
- 2. The state should require secondary social studies teachers to pass a subject-matter test of each social studies discipline they are licensed to teach.
- The state should require that secondary teachers pass a content test when adding subject-area endorsements to an existing license.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-F Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Nearly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania requires that its secondary teacher candidates pass a Praxis II content test to teach any core secondary subjects.

Unfortunately, Pennsylvania permits a significant loophole to this important policy by allowing both general science and general social studies licenses, without requiring subject-matter testing for each subject area within these disciplines.

General social studies candidates are required to pass the Praxis II Social Studies content test. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general social studies but rather can teach any of the topical areas. Further, the state offers two additional combination certifications: general social sciences and citizenship education (a compilation of U.S. history, world history, government/civics/political science, geography and economics). Candidates must pass similarly titled Praxis II exams, which combine multiple subject areas and fail to report subscores. (For the state's science loophole, see Goal 1-G.)

Further, to add an additional field to a secondary license, teachers must also pass a Praxis II content test. However, as stated above, Pennsylvania cannot guarantee content knowledge in each specific subject for secondary teachers who add general science or general social studies endorsements.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Code Title 22, Section 49.18g

RECOMMENDATION

Require subject-matter testing for all secondary teacher candidates.

Pennsylvania wisely requires subject-matter tests for most secondary teachers but should address any loopholes that undermine this policy (see Goal 1-G). This applies to the addition of endorsements as well.

Require secondary social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.

By allowing a general social studies certification—and only requiring a general knowledge social studies exam—Pennsylvania is not ensuring that its secondary teachers possess adequate subjectspecific content knowledge. The state's required assessment combines all subject areas (e.g., history, geography, economics) and does not report separate scores for each subject area.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania asserted that the general science certificate is only permitted for introductory courses in individual sciences at lower grade levels. The state has certificates in physics, biology and chemistry for sciences that are required for secondary subject-specific classrooms.

Supporting Research

Competencies

Biology: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=18&objID=1247034&mode=2 Chemistry: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=18&objID=1247035&mode=2 Physics: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=18&objID=1247038&mode=2

LAST WORD

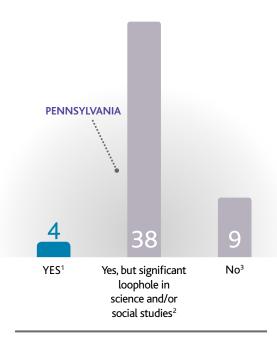
The state should ensure that all students, not only those in advanced classes, have teachers with sufficient and appropriate content knowledge.



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Georgia, Indiana and Tennessee require that all secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core secondary subject—both as a condition of licensure and to add an additional field to a secondary license. Further, none of these states offers secondary certification in general social studies; all teachers must be certified in a specific discipline. Also worthy of mention is Missouri, which now requires its general social studies teachers to pass a multi-content test with six independently scored subtests.

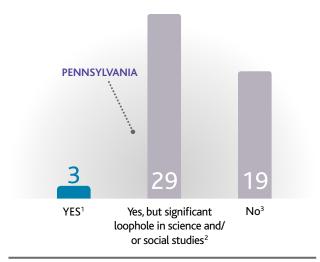
Figure 23 Does a secondary teacher have to pass a content test in every subject area for licensure?



- 1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Tennessee
- 2. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁴, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin [For more on loopholes, see Goal 1-G (science) and Figure 25 (social studies).}
- 3. Alaska, Arizona⁵, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Montana, New Hampshire⁵, Washington, Wyoming⁶
- 4. Teachers may also have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 5. Candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.
- 6. Only secondary comprehensive social studies teachers must pass a content test.

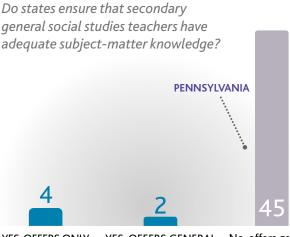
Figure 24

Does a secondary teacher have to pass a content test in every subject area to add an endorsement?



- 1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Tennessee
- 2. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin (Science is discussed in Goal 1-G.)
- 3. Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Washington, Wyoming

Figure 25



YES, OFFERS ONLY SINGLE SUBJECT SOCIAL STUDIES LICENSES¹ YES, OFFERS GENERAL No, offers general **SOCIAL STUDIES** LICENSE WITH ADEQUATE TESTING²

social studies license without adequate testing3

- 1. Strong Practice: Georgia, Indiana, South Dakota, Tennessee
- 2. Strong Practice: Minnesota⁴, Missouri
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma⁵, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. Minnesota's test for general social studies is divided into two individually scored subtests.
- 5. Oklahoma offers combination licenses.

Goal G − Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science The state should ensure that secondary science teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require secondary science teachers to pass a subject-matter test in each science discipline they are licensed to teach.
- If a general science or combination science certification is offered, the state should require teachers to pass a subject-matter test in each science discipline they are licensed to teach under those certifications.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-G Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania offers secondary certification in general science. Candidates must pass the Praxis II General Science content test. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general science but rather can teach any of the topical areas.

Supporting Research

Praxis Testing Requirements www.ets.org

RECOMMENDATION

Require secondary science teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.

By allowing a general science certification—and only requiring a general knowledge science exam—Pennsylvania is not ensuring that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. The state's required assessment combines all subject areas (e.g., biology, chemistry, physics) and does not report separate scores for each area. Therefore, candidates could answer many—perhaps all—chemistry questions, for example, incorrectly yet still be licensed to teach chemistry to high school students.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania asserted that the general science certificate is only permitted for introductory courses in individual sciences at lower grade levels. The state has certificates in physics, biology and chemistry for sciences that are required for secondary subject-specific classrooms.

Supporting Research

Competencies

Biology: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=18&objID=1247034&mode=2

Chemistry: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=18&objlD=1247035&mode=2

Physics: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=18&objID=1247038&mode=2

LAST WORD

The state should ensure that all students, not only those in advanced classes, have teachers with sufficient and appropriate content knowledge.

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EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

Missouri ensures that its secondary science teachers know the content they teach by taking a dual approach to general secondary science certification. The state offers general science certification but only allows these candidates to teach general science courses. Missouri also offers an umbrella certification—called unified science that requires candidates to pass individual subtests in biology, chemistry, earth science and physics. These certifications are offered in addition to single-subject licenses.

^{1.} Teachers with the general science license may only teach general science courses.

^{2.} Georgia's science test consists of two subtests.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal H − Special Education Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that special education teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should not permit special education teachers to teach on a K-12 license that does not differentiate between the preparation of elementary teachers and that of secondary teachers.
- 2. All elementary special education candidates should be required to pass a subject-matter test for licensure that is no less rigorous than what is required of general education candidates.
- 3. The state should ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-H Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal



(
Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania does not offer a K-12 special education certification.

Candidates applying for the special education PK-8 certificate must have a dual certificate in one of the following: early childhood, elementary/middle, or reading specialist. Therefore only those candidates with a dual certificate in either early childhood or elementary/middle would be required to pass the same elementary content test as general education elementary teachers. This general elementary test does not report subscores for all core content areas.

Candidates applying for the special education 7-12 certificate must have a dual certificate in either secondary or reading specialist. Similarly, candidates opting for the dual certificate in reading specialist would not be required to pass a content test.

Supporting Research

Chapter 49-2 Final Form Regulations

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/chapter_49/8627/chapter_49-2_final_form_regulations/506814

RECOMMENDATION

Require that all elementary special education candidates pass a rigorous content test as a condition of initial licensure.

To ensure that special education teacher candidates who will teach elementary grades possess sufficient knowledge of the subject matter at hand, Pennsylvania should require a rigorous content test that reports separate passing scores for each content area. Pennsylvania should also set these passing scores to reflect high levels of performance. Failure to ensure that teachers possess requisite content knowledge deprives special education students of the opportunity to reach their academic potential. The state should also address the fact that elementary special education teachers with dual certification as a reading specialist would not be required to pass any content tests.

■ Ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.

Secondary special education teachers are frequently generalists who teach many core subject areas. While Pennsylvania is on the right track in requiring dual certification in a secondary content area, which would ensure content knowledge in at least one subject area, the state allows teachers who opt for dual certification in reading specialist to not pass any content tests. While it may be unreasonable to expect secondary special education teachers to meet the same requirements for each subject they teach as other teachers who teach only one subject, Pennsylvania's current policy will not help special education students to meet rigorous learning standards. To provide a middle ground, Pennsylvania should consider a customized HOUSSE route for new secondary special education teachers and look to the flexibility offered by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which allows for a combination of testing and coursework to demonstrate requisite content knowledge in the classroom.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis...

Figure 29		Office K-12 and State Control of the	(s) /
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and secondary special	NOT	K-7;	oul?
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		-	



EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Unfortunately, NCTQ cannot award "best practice" honors to any state's policy in the area of special education. However, two states—New York and Rhode Island—are worthy of mention for taking steps in the right direction in ensuring that all special education teachers know the subject matter they are required to teach. Both states require that elementary special education candidates pass the same elementary content tests, which are comprised of individual subtests, as general education elementary teachers. Secondary special education teachers in New York must pass a newly developed multisubject content test for special education teachers comprised of three separately scored sections. Rhode Island requires its secondary special education teachers to hold certification in another secondary area.

Figure 30

Which states require

Which states require subject-matter testing for special education teachers?

,						
Elementary Subject-Matter Test						
Required for an elementary special education license	Alabama, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, PENNSYLVANIA ¹ , Rhode Island, Texas, West Virginia ² , Wisconsin					
Required for a K-12 special education license	Colorado, Idaho, North Carolina					
Secondary	Subject-Matter Test(s)					
Tests in all core subjects required for secondary special education license	New York³					
Test in at least one subject required for secondary special education license	Louisiana, New Jersey, PENNSYLVANIA ¹ , Rhode Island, West Virginia ²					
Required for a K-12 special education license	None					
1. In Pennsylvania, a candidate who opts for dual certification in elementary or secondary						

- special education and as a reading specialist does not have to take a content test.
- 2. West Virginia also allows elementary special education candidates to earn dual certification in early childhood, which would not require a content test. Secondary special education candidates earning a dual certification as a reading specialist are similarly exempted.
- 3. New York requires a multi-subject content test specifically geared to secondary special education candidates. It is divided into three subtests.

Figure 29:

 Although New Jersey does issue a K-12 certificate, candidates must meet discrete elementary and/or secondary requirements.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal I – Assessing Professional Knowledge

The state should use a licensing test to verify that all new teachers meet its professional standards.

Goal Component

(The factor considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

 The state should assess new teachers' knowledge of teaching and learning by means of a pedagogy test aligned to the state's professional standards.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-I Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Elementary teachers are required to pass a pedagogy test, now included as a subtest in Pennsylvania's new PECT assessment.

Middle-level teachers are required to pass a pedagogy subtest as part of the grades 4-8 Core Assessment.

Secondary teachers are not required to pass a pedagogy test.

Supporting Research

http://www.ets.org/praxis/pa/requirements

RECOMMENDATION

Require that all new teachers pass a pedagogy test.

Pennsylvania should verify that all new teachers meet professional standards through a test of professional knowledge.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

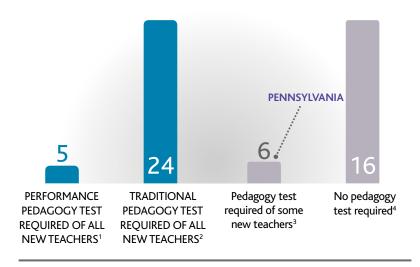
Pennsylvania recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



Although NCTQ has not singled out one state's policies for "best practice" honors, it commends the many states that require a pedagogy assessment to verify that all new teachers meet professional standards.

Figure 32

Do states measure new teachers' knowledge of teaching and learning?



- 1. Strong Practice: California, Illinois⁵, New York, Tennessee⁶, Washington
- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina⁷, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia
- 3. Connecticut, Maryland, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Utah⁸, Wyoming
- 4. Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin
- 5. Beginning in 2015.
- 6. Teachers may pass either the edTPA or a Praxis pedagogy test.
- 7. Teachers have until their second year to pass if they attempt to pass during their first year.
- 8. Not required until teacher advances from a Level One to a Level Two license.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal J − Student Teaching

The state should ensure that teacher preparation programs provide teacher candidates with a high quality clinical experience.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should require that student teachers only be placed with cooperating teachers for whom there is evidence of their effectiveness as measured by consistent gains in student learning.
- 2. The state should require that teacher candidates spend at least 10 weeks student teaching.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-J Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Commendably, Pennsylvania requires candidates to complete at least 12 weeks of full-time student teaching "under the supervision of program faculty with knowledge and experience in the area of certification."

Although the state does outline a number of criteria in selecting cooperating teachers—such as the appropriate professional educator certification, at least three years of satisfactory certificated teaching experience and at least one year of certificated teaching experience in the school entity where the student teacher is placed—it does not specifically address cooperating teachers' effectiveness as measured by student learning.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Code Title 22, Chapters 354.25

RECOMMENDATION

- Ensure that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning.
 - In addition to the ability to mentor an adult, cooperating teachers in Pennsylvania should also be carefully screened for their capacity to further student achievement. Research indicates that the only aspect of a student teaching arrangement that has been shown to have an impact on student achievement is the positive effect of selection of the cooperating teacher by the preparation program, rather than by the student teacher or school district staff.
- Use evidence from the state's teacher evaluation system to select cooperating teachers.

 Pennsylvania requires objective measures of student growth to be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations. The state should therefore utilize its evaluation results, which provide evidence of effectiveness in the classroom, in the selection of effective cooperating teachers.
- Explicitly require that student teaching be completed locally, thus prohibiting candidates from completing this requirement abroad.

Unless preparation programs can establish true satellite campuses to closely supervise student teaching arrangements, placement in foreign or otherwise novel locales should be supplementary to a standard student teaching arrangement. Outsourcing the arrangements for student teaching makes it impossible to ensure the selection of the best cooperating teacher and adequate supervision of the student teacher and may prevent training of the teacher on relevant state instructional frameworks.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state noted that all P-12 teachers will undergo a teacher effectiveness evaluation that provides feedback on the educator's effectiveness on student learning based on multiple measures. These evaluations will form the basis for selecting a cooperating teacher.

Supporting Research

http://www.education.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/teachers_and_teacher_certifications/7199/p/1219059 http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/educator_effectiveness_project/20903

Figure 34	es.	STUDENT TRACHING LASTS AT LEAST TO WEEKS
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Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
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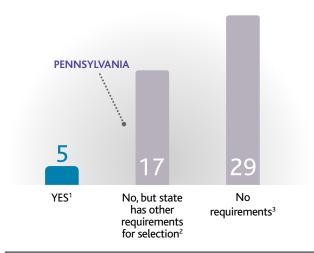


EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Florida, Rhode Island and Tennessee not only require teacher candidates to complete at least 10 weeks of full-time student teaching, but they also all require that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning.

1. West Virginia allows candidates to student teach for less than 12 weeks if determined to be proficient.

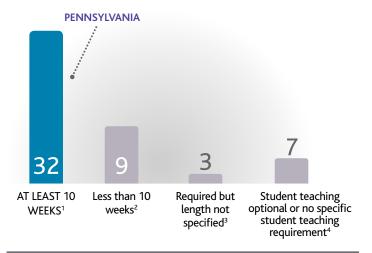
Figure 35
Is the selection of the cooperating teacher based on some measure of effectiveness?



- 1. Strong Practice: Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Tennessee
- Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin
- Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming

Figure 36

Is the student teaching experience of sufficient length?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia^s, Wisconsin
- 2. Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Illinois, New Hampshire, Utah
- ${\bf 4.\ Alaska, Arizona,\ California,\ Colorado,\ District\ of\ Columbia,\ Maryland,\ Montana}$
- West Virginia allows candidates to student teach for less than 12 weeks if determined to be proficient.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

➤ Goal K — Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

The state's approval process for teacher preparation programs should hold programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should collect data that connects student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.
 Such data can include value added or growth analyses conducted specifically for this purpose or evaluation ratings that incorporate objective measures of student learning to a significant extent.
- 2. The state should collect other meaningful data that reflect program performance, including some or all of the following:
 - a. Average raw scores of teacher candidates on licensing tests, including academic proficiency, subject-matter and professional-knowledge tests;
 - b. Number of times, on average, it takes teacher candidates to pass licensing tests;
 - c. Satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' student teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison and
 - d. Five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.
- 3. The state should establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data. Programs should be held accountable for meeting these standards, with articulated consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.
- 4. The state should produce and publish on its website an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs.
- 5. The state should retain full authority over its process for approving teacher preparation programs.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy

Figure 37 How States are Faring in Teacher Preparation Program Accountability **Best Practice States** State Meets Goal Louisiana 10 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Colorado, Delaware 1, Florida, Rhode Island 1, Tennessee, Texas States Partly Meet Goal Indiana 1, Kentucky, Massachusetts 1, Michigan, Nevada, South Carolina, Washington 1, Wisconsin 1 18 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, California 1, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas 1, Maine 1, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire 1, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Oregon 1, PENNSYLVANIA, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia 14 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2011: ← : 38 **1**:13

1-K Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



(Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania's approval process for its traditional and alternate route teacher preparation programs does not hold programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce.

Most importantly, Pennsylvania does not collect or report data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.

The state does rely on some other objective, meaningful data to measure the performance of its traditional teacher preparation programs. Pennsylvania requires that programs "demonstrate how information from systematic evaluations of their programs, including students and educator evaluators, and achievement levels of candidates for certification in the Department-designed assessment program are used for continual program improvement." However, these data are not collected for alternate route programs.

The state also collects programs' annual summary licensure test pass rates (80 percent of program completers must pass their licensure exams). Regrettably, the 80 percent pass-rate standard, while common among many states, sets the bar quite low and is not a meaningful measure of program performance.

Further, in the past three years, no programs in the state have been identified as low performing—an additional indicator that programs lack accountability.

The state's website does not include a report card that allows the public to review and compare program performance.

In Pennsylvania, there is some overlap of accreditation and state approval. Although NCATE/CAEP and the state conduct concurrent on-site reviews, Pennsylvania delegates its subject-matter program review process to NCATE/CAEP.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Code Title 22 Chapter 49.14 Title II State Reports https://title2.ed.gov www.ncate.org

RECOMMENDATION

Collect data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.

As one way to measure whether programs are producing effective classroom teachers, Pennsylvania should consider the academic achievement gains of students taught by programs' graduates, averaged over the first three years of teaching. Data that are aggregated to the institution (e.g., combining elementary and secondary programs) rather than disaggregated to the specific preparation program are not useful for accountability purposes. Such aggregation can mask significant differences in performance among programs.

■ Gather other meaningful data that reflect program performance.

Although measures of student growth are an important indicator of program effectiveness, they cannot be the sole measure of program quality for several reasons, including the fact that many programs may have graduates whose students do not take standardized tests. The accountability system must therefore include other objective measures that show how well all programs are preparing teachers for the classroom. Pennsylvania should expand its requirements to its alternate routes and also include such measures as:

- 1. Satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' student teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison;
- Average raw scores of teacher candidates on licensing tests, including academic proficiency, subject matter and professional knowledge tests;
- 3. Number of times, on average, it takes teacher candidates to pass licensing tests; and
- 4. Five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.

■ Establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.

Merely collecting the types of data described above is insufficient for accountability purposes. The next and perhaps more critical step is for the state to establish precise minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data. Pennsylvania should be mindful of setting rigorous standards for program performance, as its current requirement that 80 percent of program completers must pass their licensing exams is too low a bar. Programs should be held accountable for meeting rigorous standards, and there should be consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.

Publish an annual report card on the state's website.

Pennsylvania should produce an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs, which should be published on the state's website at the program level for the sake of public transparency. Data should be presented in a manner that clearly conveys whether programs have met performance standards.

Maintain full authority over the process for approving teacher preparation programs.

Pennsylvania should ensure that it is the state that considers the evidence of program performance and makes the decision about whether programs should continue to be authorized to prepare teachers.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that it has begun a new annual and major review of all educator preparation programs offered in the Commonwealth. This includes both traditional and alternate non-IHE programs. Programs are required to provide evidence of the candidates' ability to positively affect student growth in their classroom, and stakeholder surveys are collected from graduates, cooperating teachers and school principals on the performance of candidates and the program's ability to prepare quality educators.

Pennsylvania added that for the first time, it will be reporting low-performing and at-risk programs in the Title II State Report. Program providers will be contacted regarding this designation in the near future. The state is also currently working on a report card that will allow the public to contrast and compare preparation program performance.

Supporting Research

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/http;//www.portal.state.pa.us;80/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_123236_1311192_0_0_18/Major%20Review%20Data%20Points.pdf
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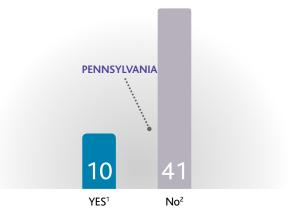
Figure 38 Do states hold teacher preparation programs accountable? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Newada¹ New Hampshire New Jersey New Hexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Oregon PENNSYLVANIA North Dakota Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia District o	Figure 38	<u> </u>		BSIITE
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****** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

NCTQ is not awarding "best practice" honors to any state's policy in the area of teacher preparation program accountability. However, the following states should be commended for collecting data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs: Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee and Texas.

Figure 39 Do states connect student achievement data to teacher preparation programs?



- 1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia^a, Hawaii^a, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland^a, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York³, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Included in state's Race to the Top plan, but not in policy or yet implemented.

- $1. \ For \ traditional \ preparation \ programs \ only.$
- 2. State does not distinguish between alternate route programs and traditional preparation programs in public reporting.
- 3. For alternate routes only.

Figure 40

Which states collect meaningful data?

STUDENT LEARNING GAINS

Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas

EVALUATION RESULTS FOR PROGRAM GRADUATES

Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas

AVERAGE RAW SCORES ON LICENSING TESTS

Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia

SATISFACTION RATINGS FROM SCHOOLS

Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland¹, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia

TEACHER RETENTION RATES

Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Maine, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Tennessee, Texas

1. For alternate route only

Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virgin
Wisconsin
Wisconsin
Wyoming

1. National accreditation can be substituted for state approval.
2. For institutions with 2,000 or more full-time equivalent students

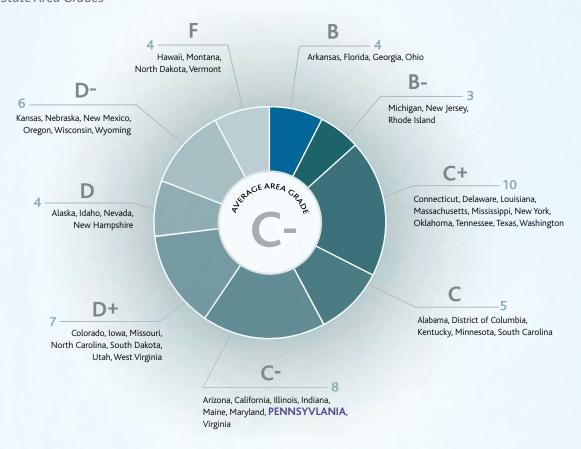
Figure 41		/	National accreditation is Phrobal
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between state program	\$ \frac{1}{2} \text{S}	a derivative de la constanta d	Dog Prog
approval and national	FH 8	/ de 31.	nal and of
accreditation?	57.47. Ogen		Natio Pquire
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Area 2 Summary



How States are Faring in Expanding the Pool of Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- 2-A: Alternate Route Eligibility
- 2-B: Alternate Route Preparation
- 2-C: Alternate Route Usage and Providers
- 2-D: Part-Time Teaching Licenses
- 2-E: Licensure Reciprocity

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal A − Alternate Route Eligibility

The state should require alternate route programs to exceed the admission requirements of traditional preparation programs while also being flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- With some accommodation for work experience, alternate route programs should set a rigorous bar for program entry by requiring that candidates take a rigorous test to demonstrate academic ability, such as the GRE.
- All alternate route candidates, including elementary candidates and those having a major in their intended subject area, should be required to pass the state's subject-matter licensing test.
- 3. Alternate route candidates lacking a major in the intended subject area should be able to demonstrate subject-matter knowledge by passing a test of sufficient rigor.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



2-A Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal



Bar Raised for this Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania classifies Pennsylvania Teacher Intern Certification, American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) and Residency Certificate as its alternate routes to certification.

Candidates for Pennsylvania Teacher Intern Certification must have a minimum 3.0 GPA; however, the state allows those who have passed the required basic skills test to be accepted with a 2.8 GPA.

Candidates must have a bachelor's degree in the subject area they plan to teach, as well as six credits of college-level mathematics and six credits of college-level English literature and Composition.

Teacher Intern Certification candidates must also pass a subject-matter test. This test cannot be used to test out of the content coursework requirements.

ABCTE programs do not require applicants to demonstrate prior academic performance.

Resident Certificate candidate must hold either a master's degree or a doctorate in a subject-shortage area. Candidates must have three years of work experience in the subject area or related field and are required to pass a content test.

Supporting Research

Intern Certification

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/other_routes_to_certification/8818/intern_certification

American Board (ABCTE)

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/other_routes_to_certification/8818/american_board_%28abcte%29/506779 Residency Certificate

http://www.education.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/professional_education/8627/program_framework_guidelines/683300

RECOMMENDATION

Screen all candidates for academic ability.

Pennsylvania should require that candidates to its alternate routes provide some evidence of good academic performance. At a minimum, Pennsylvania should set a standard for academic proficiency higher than for traditional candidates. A rigorous test appropriate for candidates who have already completed a bachelor's degree, such as the GRE, would be ideal.

Offer flexibility in fulfilling coursework requirements.

Pennsylvania should allow any candidate who already has the requisite knowledge and skills to demonstrate such by passing a rigorous test. Rigid coursework requirements could dissuade talented individuals who lack precisely the right courses from pursuing a career in teaching.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania noted that the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) challenges state program providers to review candidates' previous coursework, experiences and employment and apply them toward credit for the program. Candidates are required to have a minimum GPA to enter a professional education program. Candidates at the postbaccalaureate level with less than a 3.0 GPA at the time of application must reach 3.0 within nine credits of starting the program.

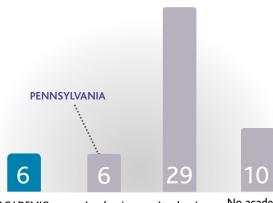
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Oklahoma		*	*
Oregon			
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West Virginia		*	
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

The District of Columbia and Michigan require candidates to demonstrate aboveaverage academic performance as a condition of admission to an alternate route program, with both requiring applicants to have a minimum 3.0 GPA. In addition, neither requires a content-specific major; subjectarea knowledge is demonstrated by passing a test, making their alternate routes flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.

Figure 44 Do states require alternate routes to be selective?



ACADEMIC STANDARD EXCEEDS THAT OF TRADITIONAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL ROUTES/ MAIN ROUTE1

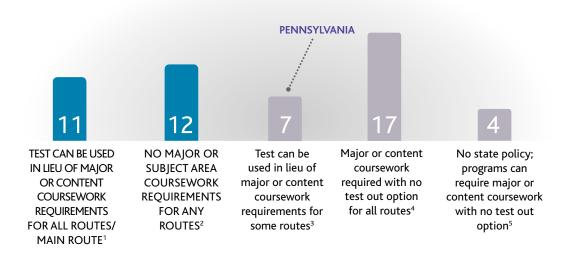
Academic standard exceeds that of traditional programs for some routes² Academic standard too low for all routes³

No academic standard for any route4

- 1. Strong Practice: Connecticut, District of Columbia, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Rhode Island
- 2. Alabama, Illinois⁵, Indiana, Kentucky⁶, New York, Pennsylvania
- 3. Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. Arizona, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah
- 5. Illinois' routes are in the process of converting to a single new license.
- 6. Only one of Kentucky's eight alternate routes has a 3.0 GPA requirement.

Figure 45

Do states accommodate the nontraditional background of alternate route candidates?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Maine, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas
- 2. Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Washington
- 3. Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia
- 4. Alaska, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 5. Hawaii, Idaho, New Mexico, North Dakota

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

➤ Goal B – Alternate Route Preparation

The state should ensure that its alternate routes provide efficient preparation that is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers, as well as adequate mentoring and support.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should ensure that the amount of coursework it either requires or allows is manageable for a novice teacher. Anything exceeding 12 credit hours of coursework in the first year may be counterproductive, placing too great a burden on the teacher. This calculation is premised on no more than 6 credit hours in the summer, three in the fall and three in the spring.
- 2. The state should ensure that alternate route programs offer accelerated study not to exceed six (three credit) courses for secondary teachers and eight (three credit) courses for elementary teachers (exclusive of any credit for practice teaching or mentoring) over the duration of the program. Programs should be limited to two years, at which time the new teacher should be eligible for a standard certificate.
- 3. All coursework requirements should target the immediate needs of the new teacher (e.g., seminars with other grade-level teachers, training in a particular curriculum, reading instruction, classroom management techniques).
- 4. The state should require intensive induction support, beginning with a trained mentor assigned full time to the new teacher for the first critical weeks of school and then gradually reduced over the course of the entire first year. The state should support only induction strategies that can be effective even in a poorly managed school: intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area, a reduced teaching load and frequent release time to observe effective teachers. Ideally, candidates would also have an opportunity to practice teach in a summer training program.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.



Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy

2-B Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Bar Raised for this Goal (



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

The Pennsylvania Teacher Intern Certification program requires candidates to enroll in a university/college preparation program. Candidates must complete nine credits per year to maintain certification. Institutions of higher education must provide flexible and accelerated pedagogical training to teachers in the Intern program.

Once candidates in the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) program have earned the Passport to Teaching credential, they may apply for the Temporary Teaching Permit. Under this permit candidates complete two continuing education seminars/workshops and two graduate-level education pedagogy courses.

The state requires alternate route providers of a Teacher Intern Program to offer a minimum of one classroom observation each month. ABCTE candidates receive mentor support.

The intern certificate is valid for three years after which candidates are eligible for a standard license. ABCTE candidates complete the program in two years and may apply for a standard license.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Code 49.13; .91

Intern Certification

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/other_routes_to_certification/8818/intern_certification

American Board (ABCTE)

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/other_routes_to_certification/8818/american_

board_%28abcte%29/506779

Residency Certificate

http://www.education.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/professional_education/8627/program_framework_guidelines/683300

RECOMMENDATION

Establish coursework guidelines for all alternate route preparation programs.

Simply mandating coursework without specifying the purpose can inadvertently send the wrong message to program providers—that "anything goes" as long as credits are granted. However constructive, any course that is not fundamentally practical and immediately necessary should be eliminated as a requirement. Appropriate coursework should include grade-level or subject-level seminars, methodology in the content area, classroom management, assessment and scientifically based early reading instruction.

Ensure program completion in fewer than two years.

While ABCTE candidates qualify for standard certification in two years, Pennsylvania should consider shortening the length of time it takes a Teacher Intern to earn standard certification. The route should allow candidates to earn full certification no later than the end of the second year of teaching.

Strengthen the induction experience for new teachers.

While Pennsylvania is commended for requiring all new teachers to work with a mentor, there are insufficient guidelines indicating that the mentoring program is structured for new teacher success. Effective induction strategies include practice teaching prior to teaching in the classroom, intensive mentoring with full classroom support in the first few weeks or months of school, a reduced teaching load and release time to allow new teachers to observe experienced teachers during each school day.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania asserted that its Post-Baccalaureate Framework Guidelines ensure that alternative route candidates receive a streamlined program of instruction. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) challenges state program providers to review a candidate's previous coursework, experiences and employment and apply them toward credit for the program. Candidates are required to have a minimum GPA to enter a professional education program.

The state added that although the Teacher Intern Program certificate is valid for three years, the intern could complete the program in fewer than three years.

Pennsylvania also indicated that it does have Teacher Induction Program Guidelines that are meant to provide the novice teacher with intensive monitoring and support.

Supporting Research

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/http://www.portal.state.pa.us;80/portal/server.pt/gateway/
PTARGS_0_123236_1272416_0_0_18/Teacher%20Intern%20Certification%20Program%20Guidelines.pdf
http://www.psea.org/uploadedFiles/TeachingandLearning/Certification/InductionGuideLines5%2003[1].pdf

Figure 47		/	ORK /	/	/
Do states' alternate routes		/ 6	M _y	E / H	
provide efficient preparation	X	· / ð	. / 3/KE		
that meets the immediate	ENT SEW	\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \	\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \		/ N/S _N
needs of new teachers?	EFFICIENT COURSEWORK	RELEVANTCOURCE	REASONABLE PROCRAMILE	PRACTICE TEACHING	INTENSIVE SUPPORT
Alabama					
Alaska		*	*	*	
Arizona			*	*	
Arkansas	*	*	*		*
California					
Colorado Connecticut	*				
Delaware	<u> </u>				<u> </u>
District of Columbia				***	
Florida			<u> </u>		
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Texas			*		
Utah					
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Virginia	*				
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West Virginia		*	*		*
Wisconsin					
Wyoming			X		



EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Delaware and **New Jersey** ensure that alternate routes provide efficient preparation that meets the needs of new teachers. Both states require a manageable number of credit hours, relevant coursework, a field placement and intensive mentoring.

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

➤ Goal C – Alternate Route Usage and Providers

The state should provide an alternate route that is free from limitations on its usage and allows a diversity of providers.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should not treat the alternate route as a program of last resort or restrict the availability of alternate routes to certain subjects, grades or geographic areas.
- The state should allow districts and nonprofit organizations other than institutions of higher education to operate alternate route programs.
- 3. The state should ensure that its alternate route has no requirements that would be difficult to meet for a provider that is not an institution of higher education (e.g., an approval process based on institutional accreditation).

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



2-C Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Nearly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania limits the usage of some alternate routes, although it does not place restrictions on providers.

There are no limitations on Pennsylvania's Teacher Intern Certification in terms of grades, subjects or geographic areas. The Residency Certificate, available only to candidates with a master's degree or doctorate, is limited to subject-shortage areas. Also, starting in August 2013, the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) will no longer offer certification in elementary education.

The state allows alternate route providers other than institutions of higher education to operate in Pennsylvania, including ABCTE. The state is commended for restructuring its programs to allow a diversity of providers. A good diversity of providers helps all programs, both- university and nonuniversity-based, to improve.

Supporting Research

22 PA Code 49.14

Intern Certification

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/other_routes_to_certification/8818/intern_certification/506789

American Board

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/other_routes_to_certification/8818/american_board_(abcte)/506779

Residency Certificate

http://www.education.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/chapter_49/8627/program_framework_guide-lines/683300

RECOMMENDATION

Broaden alternate route usage.

Pennsylvania should reconsider grade-level and subject-area restrictions on its alternate route. Alternate routes should not be programs of last resort for hard-to-staff subjects, grade levels or geographic areas but rather a way to expand the teacher pipeline throughout the state.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania noted that ABCTE has not applied to offer the state's new Pre-K-4 or 4-8 certificates. The elementary certificate ABCTE did offer is no longer available in the state.

The state also indicated that it now approves alternative programs that are not higher education institutions. The law specifically addresses the requirements for intern and resident competencies as being limited to pedagogy. Both IHE and nonIHE program models focus on clinical preparation and not coursework. The alternative programs approved thus far are not credit based.

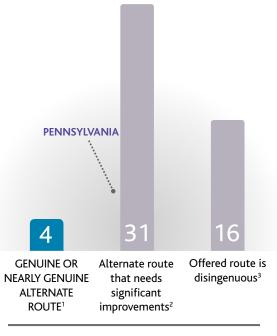
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Colorado	*	*
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Delaware		*
District of Columbia	*	*
Florida	*	*
Georgia	*	*
Hawaii		
Idaho		
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Kentucky	*	*
Louisiana	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	*
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Maryland	*	*
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Michigan	*	*
Minnesota	*	
Mississippi		
Missouri		
Montana Nebraska	*	
Nevada		*
New Hampshire	*	*
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Wyoming		
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** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Twenty-three states meet this goal, and although NCTQ has not singled out one state's policies for "best practice" honors, it commends all states that pemit both broad usage and a diversity of providers for their alternate routes.

Figure 50 Do states provide real alternative pathways to certification?



^{1.} Strong Practice: Connecticut, Florida, New Jersey, Rhode Island

^{2.} Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia

^{3.} Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin, Wyoming

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Arkansas		*	*	*	*	*		*		*
California						*			*	*
Colorado			*	*		*			*	*
Connecticut	*			*	*	*	*		*	*
Delaware				*	*	*	*	*		*
District of Columbia	*	*	*				*		*	*
Florida		*	*			*			*	*
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Missouri								*		
Montana									*	
Nebraska				*			*			
Nevada						*				*
New Hampshire									*	*
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North Carolina			*						*	*
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Ohio		*	*				*		*	*
Oklahoma		*	*							*
Oregon										
PENNSYLVANIA		*								*
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South Carolina	Ô	*	Ô	*	*		â	*	Ê	*
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Tennessee			*						*	*
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Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal D − Part-Time Teaching Licenses

The state should offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- Either through a discrete license or by waiving most licensure requirements, the state should license individuals with content expertise as part-time instructors.
- All candidates for a part-time teaching license should be required to pass a subjectmatter test.
- 3. Other requirements for this license should be limited to those addressing public safety (e.g., background screening) and those of immediate use to the novice instructor (e.g., classroom management training).

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



2-D Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania offers a Resource Specialist Permit issued at the request of a public school entity for a competent, but noncertified, individual to provide supplemental instruction in his or her profession or area of expertise. Individuals must provide supplemental instruction under the direct supervision of a certified teachers as a part-time service not to exceed 400 clock hours during a school year. This temporary permit is valid for three calendar years and is not transferable to another public school entity.

Supporting Research

Certification and Staffing Policy Guideline (CSPG) 100 http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/certification_staffing_policies_%28cspgs%29/8626/ancillary_staffing_information

RECOMMENDATION

Offer a license that allows content experts to serve as part-time instructors.

Pennsylvania's Resource Specialist Permit Class only allows individuals to provide supplemental instruction in their profession or expertise under direct supervision of a certified teacher. The state should expand on this idea and offer a license that permits all individuals with deep subject-area knowledge to teach a limited number of courses without fulfilling a complete set of certification requirements. The state should verify content knowledge through a rigorous test and conduct background checks as appropriate, while waiving all other licensure requirements. Such a license would increase districts' flexibility to staff certain subjects, including many STEM areas, that are frequently hard to staff or may not have high enough enrollment to necessitate a full-time position.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania was helpful in providing NCTQ with the facts necessary for this analysis.

Figure 53		,	,
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EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

Georgia offers a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time. Individuals seeking this license must pass a subject-matter test and will be assigned a mentor.

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal E − Licensure Reciprocity

The state should help to make licenses fully portable among states, with appropriate safeguards.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should offer a standard license to fully certified teachers moving from other states, without relying on transcript analysis or recency requirements as a means of judging eligibility. The state can and should require evidence of effective teaching in previous employment.
- 2. The state should uphold its standards for all teachers by insisting that certified teachers coming from other states meet its own testing requirements.
- The state should accord the same license to teachers from other states who completed an approved alternate route program as it accords teachers prepared in a traditional preparation program.
- 4. Consistent with these principles of portability, state requirements for online teachers based in other states should protect student interests without creating unnecessary obstacles for teachers.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



2-E Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Commendably, Pennsylvania provides testing waivers only to teachers who have attained National Board Certification. All other out-of-state teachers, no matter how many years of experience they have, must meet Pennsylvania's passing scores on licensing tests.

However, other aspects of the state's policy create obstacles for teachers from other states seeking licensure in Pennsylvania. Teachers with comparable out-of-state certificates may be eligible for Pennsylvania's Level I Certificate. Out-of-state teachers are eligible for comparable certification if the candidate has at least two years of successful classroom experience, in addition to holding a bachelor's degree; has demonstrated subject-matter competency in the applicable area; and has satisfied statutory requirements related to his or her criminal background check, medical history and good moral character.

Further, Pennsylvania routinely reviews the college transcripts of licensed out-of-state teachers, an exercise that often leads the state to require additional coursework before it will offer an equivalent license. States that reach a determination about an applicant's licensure status on the basis of the course titles listed on the applicant's transcript may end up mistakenly equating the amount of required coursework with the teacher's qualification.

Pennsylvania is also a participant in the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement, which outlines which other states' certificates will be accepted by the receiving state. This agreement is not a collection of two-way reciprocal acceptances, nor is it a guarantee that all certificates will be accepted by the receiving state, and is therefore not included in this analysis.

Pennsylvania requires that, at cyber charter schools, 75 percent of the professional staff must hold "appropriate certification." It is not clear, however, whether online teachers outside Pennsylvania are required to meet the state's certification requirements.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Code 22-49.171

HB 1352 (2011)

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/purdon's_statutes/7503/cyber_charter_schools/507354

RECOMMENDATION

 Offer a standard license to certified out-of-state teachers, absent unnecessary requirements.

Pennsylvania should reconsider its policy of transcript reviews. Transcript reviews are not a particularly meaningful or efficient exercise and are likely to result in additional coursework requirements, even for traditionally prepared teachers; alternate route teachers, on the other hand, may have to virtually begin anew, repeating some, most or all of a teacher preparation program in Pennsylvania.

Require evidence of effective teaching when determining eligibility for full certification.

Rather than rely on transcripts to assess credentials, Pennsylvania should instead require that evidence of teacher effectiveness be considered for all out-of-state candidates. Such evidence is especially important for candidates who come from states that make student growth at least a significant factor of a teacher evaluation (see Goal 3-B).

Accord the same license to out-of-state alternate route teachers as would be accorded to traditionally prepared teachers.

Regardless of whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route, all certified out-of-state teachers should receive equal treatment. State policies that discriminate against teachers who were prepared in an alternate route are not supported by evidence. In fact, a substantial body of research has failed to discern differences in effectiveness between alternate and traditional route teachers.

■ Ensure that requirements for online teachers are as rigorous as those for in-state teachers.

Pennsylvania should ensure that online teachers based in other states are at least equally as qualified as those who teach in the state. However, Pennsylvania should balance the interests of its students in having qualified online instructors with making certain that these requirements do not create unnecessary obstacles for out-of-state teachers.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania asserted that it has taken several steps to streamline the processing of out-of-state applicants for certification over the past year. Transcript review is not required when a candidate has completed a state-approved program, either traditional or alternate route, in a state that is party to the NASD-TEC Interstate Agreement. Pennsylvania noted that very few transcript reviews are done. Alternate route candidates receive the same streamlined evaluation as traditional route candidates from another state, as long as the route to certification was approved by the previous state. Candidates are evaluated for the most closely related Pennsylvania certificate if they pass the content test and meet other requirements.

Pennsylvania also noted that at this time, there are no reliable indicators for teacher effectiveness available for consistent and reliable review for teacher certification. Therefore, completion of a planned program of study, either traditional or alternate route programs, and assessments provide the assurances that the candidates have attained the competencies as identified by the state for certification in the area.

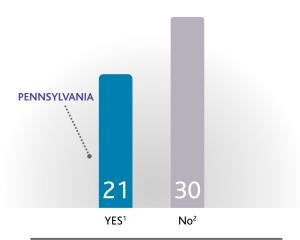
Finally, Pennsylvania pointed out that online teachers must meet the same requirements as other Pennsylvania teachers if they are considered the teacher of record and grade students' performance in the course. Staffing determinations and highly qualified teacher status are determined based on these requirements.

LAST WORD

To the state's point that there are no reliable indicators of teacher effectiveness suitable for teacher certification, NCTQ points out that the field is changing rapidly as more and more states begin to implement teacher evaluation systems that prioritize student learning and teacher effectiveness. Pennsylvania could do what Delaware has done and limit the evidence of effectiveness it will accept as the basis for license reciprocity to evaluation results from states with rigorous requirements similar to its own.

Figure 55

Do states require all out-of-state teachers to pass their licensure tests?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska³, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine⁴, Massachusetts³, Minnesota, New York⁵, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas³, Utah, Washington⁶, Wisconsin
- Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana', Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Allows one year to meet testing requirements.
- 4. Maine grants waiver for basic skills and pedagogy tests.
- 5. Waiver for teachers with National Board Certification; all others given two years to meet testing requirements.
- 6. Waiver for teachers with National Board Certification.
- 7. No subject-matter testing for any teacher certification.

What do states require of teachers transferring from other states? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia П Hawaii П Idaho П Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Г Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota П Г Ohio Oklahoma Oregon **PENNSYLVANIA** Rhode Island П South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas П П Utah П Vermont П Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 6 44 11

Figure 56

^{1.} State conducts transcript reviews.

 $^{\ \ \, \}hbox{$2$. Recency requirement is for alternate route.}$

^{3.} For traditionally prepared teachers only.

^{4.} Teachers with less than 3 years' experience are subject to transcript review.

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T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

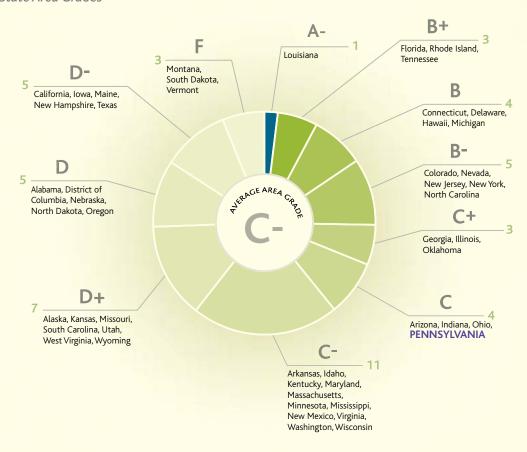
Alabama and Texas appropriately support licensure reciprocity by requiring that certified teachers from other states meet Alabama's and Texas's own testing requirements, and by not specifying any additional coursework or recency requirements to determine eligibility for either traditional or alternate route teachers. Also worthy of mention is **Delaware** for its reciprocity policy that limits the evidence of "successful" experience it will accept to evaluation results from states with rigorous requirements similar to its own.

Area 3 Summary



How States are Faring in Identifying Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- 3-A: State Data Systems 3-D: Tenure
- 3-B: Evaluation of Effectiveness 3-E: Licensure Advancement
- 3-C: Frequency of Evaluations 3-F: Equitable Distribution

Goal A – State Data Systems

The state should have a data system that contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should establish a longitudinal data system with at least the following key components:
 - a. A unique statewide student identifier number that connects student data across key databases across years;
 - b. A unique teacher identifier system that can match individual teacher records with individual student records and
 - c. An assessment system that can match individual student test records from year to year in order to measure academic growth.
- Student growth or value-added data provided through the state's longitudinal data system should be considered among the criteria used to determine teachers' effectiveness.
- 3. To ensure that data provided through the state data system is actionable and reliable, the state should have a clear definition of "teacher of record" and require its consistent use statewide.
- 4. Data provided through the state's longitudinal data system should be used to publicly report information on teacher production.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-A Analysis: Pennsylvania







ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania does not have a data system that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Pennsylvania has two of three necessary elements that would allow for the development of a studentand teacher-level longitudinal data system. The state has assigned unique student identifiers that connect student data across key databases across years, and it has the capacity to match student test records from year to year in order to measure student academic growth. Although Pennsylvania assigns teacher identification numbers, it cannot match individual teacher records with individual student records.

Commendably, Pennsylvania defines teacher of record as a professional or temporary professional educator assigned by a school entity as the primary instructor for a group of students. Although the state's teacher-student data link cannot connect more than one educator to a particular student in a given course, it does have in place a process for teacher roster verification.

Pennsylvania does not publish data on teacher production that connects program completion, certification and hiring statistics.

Supporting Research

Data Quality Campaign www.dataqualitycampaign.org

RECOMMENDATION

Develop capacity of state data system.

Pennsylvania should ensure that its state data system is able to match individual teacher records with individual student records.

Strengthen data link between teachers and students.

Pennsylvania should ensure that its teacher-student data link can connect more than one educator to a particular student in a given course. This is of particular importance for using the data system to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Publish data on teacher production.

From the number of teachers who graduate from preparation programs each year, only a subset are certified, and only some of those certified are actually hired in the state. While it is certainly desirable to produce a big enough pool to give districts a choice in hiring, the substantial oversupply in some teaching areas is not good for the profession. Pennsylvania should look to Maryland's "Teacher Staffing Report" as a model whose primary purpose is to determine teacher shortage areas, while also identifying areas of surplus. By collecting similar hiring data from its districts, Pennsylvania will form a rich set of data that can inform policy decisions.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that a teacher needs three consecutive school years of value-added reporting to receive a Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System's (PVAAS) 3-year rolling average. This can be in any state-assessed grade/subject/course.

Pennsylvania noted that this includes LEAs submitting staff email addresses, coding LEA courses to state-tested course codes and linking each teacher who has responsibility for instruction to the students for a state-tested grade/subject/course. LEAs annually submit these data, which are then used to prepopulate the PVAAS roster verification system—a system for teachers, principals and district administrators to verify that the right students are linked to the right teachers for the right state-tested grade/subject/course and for the right percentage of instructional responsibility.

In addition, Pennsylvania is implementing new legislation for educator effectiveness, which includes teacher-specific reporting with the PVAAS. A pilot was conducted with 273 LEAs in school year 2012-2013. Statewide implementation will occur in 2013-2014. However, it is not until 2015-2016 that a PVAAS measure can be used on a teacher's rating form.

Teachers receiving PVAAS teacher-specific reporting are permanent or temporary professional employees who hold a valid PA teaching certificate, and who have full or partial responsibility for content-specific instruction of assessed eligible content as measured by state assessments. This may include teachers other than the teachers of record. Pennsylvania defines teacher of record as "a professional or temporary professional educator assigned by a school entity as the primary instructor for a group of students." It has a state longitudinal database called PIMS, the Pennsylvania Information Management System, which warehouses student, staff and course data. This system has been modified for 2013-2014 to align with the data needs for Pennsylvania's Educator Effectiveness system. These data will be used both in the building-level profile and in the individual teachers' evaluations.

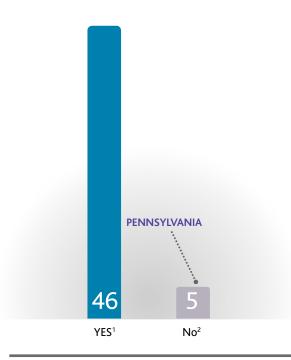
Supporting Research Act 82

LAST WORD

This analysis was revised subsequent to the state's review based on updated data from the Data Quality Campaign.

Figure 59

Do states' data systems have the basic elements needed to assess teacher effectiveness: unique teacher and student identifiers that can be matched to test records over time?



^{1.} Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

2. Colorado, Maine, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota

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TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Hawaii and New York have all three necessary elements of a student- and teacher-level longitudinal data system. Both states have developed definitions of "teacher of record" that reflect instruction. Their data links can connect multiple teachers to a particular student, and there is a process for teacher roster verification. In addition, Hawaii and New York publish teacher production data. Also worthy of mention is Maryland for its "Teacher Staffing Report," which serves as a model for other states. The report's primary purpose is to determine teacher shortage areas, while also identifying areas of surplus.

Goal B – Evaluation of Effectiveness

The state should require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should either require a common evaluation instrument in which evidence of student learning is the most significant criterion or should specifically require that student learning be the preponderant criterion in local evaluation processes. Evaluation instruments, whether state or locally developed, should be structured so as to preclude a teacher from receiving a satisfactory rating if found ineffective in the classroom.
- 2. Evaluation instruments should require classroom observations that focus on and document the effectiveness of instruction.
- 3. The state should encourage the use of student surveys, which have been shown to correlate strongly with teacher effectiveness.
- 4. The state should require that evaluation instruments differentiate among various levels of teacher performance. A binary system that merely categorizes teachers as satisfactory or unsatisfactory is inadequate.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-B Analysis: Pennsylvania





State Meets Goal (1) Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Commendably, Pennsylvania requires that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations. The state's Teacher Effectiveness Tool will be the evaluation tool used for all teachers in the state. Full implementation is slated for school year 2013-2014.

Student performance must count for 50 percent of a teacher's evaluation score. This half must be based on multiple measures of student achievement and be comprised of the following: building-level data (15) percent), must at least include student performance on assessments, value-added assessment system data, grad rates, promotion rates; teacher-specific data (15 percent), student achievement attributable to a specific teacher as measured by student performance on assessments, value-added assessment system data, progress in meeting student goals; and elective data (20 percent), including measures of student achievement that are locally developed.

Four rating categories must be used: distinguished, proficient, needs improvement and failing. Distinguished and proficient are considered satisfactory. Needs improvement is considered satisfactory, except if the teacher gets another needs improvement rating within 10 years, and then it is considered unsatisfactory. No teacher can be rated needs improvement or failing based solely on student test scores.

Classroom observations are required.

Supporting Research

HB 1901 (2012)

Teacher Effectiveness Project

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/educator_effectiveness_project/20903

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania reiterated that student performance must count for 50 percent of a teacher's evaluation score. It is comprised of 15 percent building-level data (available in 2013-2014), 15 percent teacher-specific data based on a three-year rolling average (available in 2015-2016 for teachers of tested subjects), and 20 percent elective data in the form of student learning objectives (required in 2014-2015). The system has been in development for three years.

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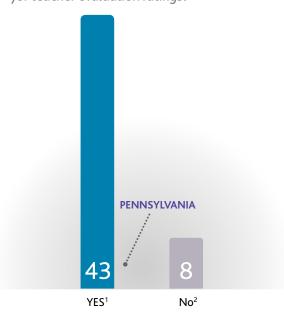
The state has an ESEA waiver requiring an evaluation system that includes student achievement as a significant factor. However, no specific guidelines or policies have been articulated.

^{2.} Explicitly defined for the 2013-2014 school year.

Figure 64 Type of surey not specified Is survey data used as part of teacher evaluations? Alabama Alaska¹ Arizona П П Arkansas California Colorado 2 Connecticut³ П П Delaware П П District of Columbia П Florida Georgia Hawaii П П Idaho П П Illinois \Box П П Indiana Iowa1 Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana П Maine 2 Maryland П П П П Massachusetts Michigan П Minnesota Mississippi П П П П Missouri 2 Montana П Nebraska Nevada П П New Hampshire П П П New Jersey П New Mexico П П П New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio П П П Oklahoma Oregon **PENNSYLVANIA** Rhode Island П South Carolina П П South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah П Vermont Virginia П Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 2 14 11 6 33

Figure 65

Do states require more than two categories for teacher evaluation ratings?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- Alabama, California, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont

Input from students, teachers and peers is required, but there is no explicit indication that this must come from surveys.

^{2.} Explicitly allowed but not required.

^{3.} Requires parent or peer surveys; whole-school student learning or student surveys.



EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

NCTQ has not singled out any one state for "best practice" honors. Many states continue to make significant strides in the area of teacher evaluation by requiring that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion. Because there are many different approaches that result in student learning being the preponderant criterion, all 19 states that meet this goal are commended for their efforts.

Figure 66 Do states direct how teachers should be evaluated? Alabama Alaska Arizona П Arkansas California П П Colorado Connecticut П Delaware П District of Columbia П П Florida Georgia Hawaii П П Idaho П П Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland П П Massachusetts Michigan П П Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana П Nebraska Nevada П П New Hampshire П New Jersey П New Mexico П П **New York** North Carolina North Dakota Ohio П П Oklahoma Oregon **PENNSYLVANIA** Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah П П Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming П П 9 12 30

New Hampshire is in the process of developing a state model/criteria for teacher evaluations.

Figure 67		_ /	EVALUATORS MUST BE .	THERS
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^{1.} Maryland requires multiple observers for ineffective teachers.

^{2.} Multiple evaluators are explicitly allowed but not required.

➤ Goal C – Frequency of Evaluations

The state should require annual evaluations of all teachers.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require that all teachers receive a formal evaluation rating each year.
- While all teachers should have multiple observations that contribute to their formal evaluation rating, the state should ensure that new teachers are observed and receive feedback early in the school year.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-C Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Nearly Meets Goal (Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Commendably, all teachers in Pennsylvania must be evaluated at least annually.

Nonprobationary teachers must be evaluated once a year. New teachers in Pennsylvania must be formally evaluated twice a year. However, the state's policy does not include any guidelines on when these evaluations should occur.

Supporting Research

HB 1901 (2012)

Pennsylvania State Public School Code of 1949, Art. XI, 11-1123

Educator Effectiveness Project

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/educator_effectiveness_project/20903

RECOMMENDATION

Base evaluations on multiple observations.

To guarantee that annual evaluations are based on an adequate collection of information, Pennsylvania should require multiple observations for all teachers, even those who have nonprobationary

Ensure that new teachers are observed and receive feedback early in the school year.

It is critical that schools and districts closely monitor the performance of new teachers. Pennsylvania should ensure that its new teachers get the support they need, and that supervisors know early on which new teachers may be struggling or at risk for unacceptable levels of performance. As evaluation instruments become more data driven, it will not be feasible to issue a formal evaluation rating until applicable student data are available later in the year.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 69
Do states require districts to evaluate all teachers each year?

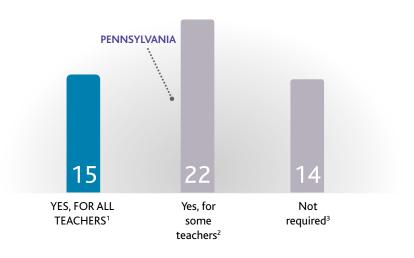


- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland³, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 2. Alaska, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia
- ${\it 3. Regulations sunset on September 30, 2014.}$

Figure 70		ANNUAL EVALUATION OF
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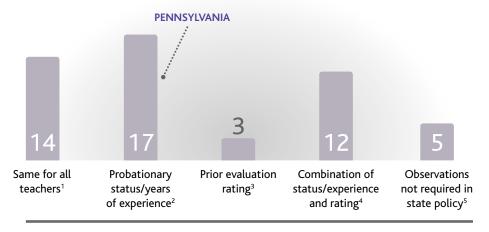
Figure 71

Do states require multiple classroom observations?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Washington
- 2. Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. California, District of Columbia, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Wyoming

Figure 72
What is the determining factor for frequency of observations?



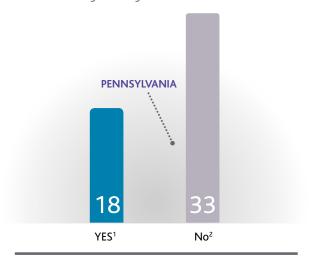
- Alabama, District of Columbia⁶, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island
- 2. Alaska, Arkansas⁷, California⁷, Colorado, Florida, Kansas⁷, Minnesota⁷, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma⁷, Oregon, Pennsylvania⁷, South Carolina, South Dakota⁷, Utah⁷, Washington, West Virginia⁸
- 3. Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio
- 4. Arizona⁹, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts⁷, Nevada, Tennessee, Texas⁷, Virginia⁷, Wisconsin⁷
- 5. Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming
- 6. Depends on LEA requirements.
- 7. Frequency is based on evaluation cycle, not year.
- 8. No observations required after year 5.
- 9. Second observation may be waived for tenured teachers with high performance on first observation.



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

NCTQ is not awarding "best practice" honors for frequency of evaluations but commends Alabama, Hawaii, Idaho, Mississippi, New Jersey, Tennessee and Washington. These states not only require annual evaluations and multiple observations for all teachers, but they also ensure that new teachers are observed and receive feedback during the first half of the school year.

Figure 73 Do states require that new teachers are observed early in the year?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Dakota³, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia
- 2. Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia⁴, Wisconsin,
- 3. New teachers must be evaluated early in the year; observations not explicit.
- 4. Teachers in their first year are informally evaluated early in the year.

Goal D - Tenure

The state should require that tenure decisions are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- A teacher should be eligible for tenure after a certain number of years of service, but tenure should not be granted automatically at that juncture.
- 2. Evidence of effectiveness should be the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.
- The minimum years of service needed to achieve tenure should allow sufficient data to be accumulated on which to base tenure decisions; four to five years is the ideal minimum.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-D Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania does not connect tenure decisions to evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Teachers in Pennsylvania are awarded tenure automatically after a three-year probationary period, absent an additional process that evaluates cumulative evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949, Art. XI, 11-1108 (b)(2)

RECOMMENDATION

■ End the automatic awarding of tenure.

The decision to grant tenure should be a deliberate one, based on consideration of a teacher's commitment and actual evidence of classroom effectiveness.

- Ensure evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.
 - Pennsylvania should make evidence of effectiveness, rather than the number of years in the class-room, the most significant factor when determining this leap in professional standing.
- Articulate a process that local districts must administer when deciding which teachers get tenure.
 - Pennsylvania should require a clear process, such as a hearing, to ensure that the local district reviews a teacher's performance before making a determination regarding tenure.
- Require a longer probationary period.

Pennsylvania should extend its probationary period, ideally to five years. This would allow sufficient time to collect data that adequately reflect teacher performance.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania asserted that temporary professional employees receive tenure when their work has been certified as satisfactory by the superintendent during the last four months of their probationary period with the school district. A temporary professional employee who receives an unsatisfactory rating during the last four months of the probationary period does not acquire tenure. Tenure status must be recorded in the records of the school board, and the employee must be formally notified with a letter signed by the superintendent and president of the school board. A regular contract is given after the notice.

How long before a teacher earns tenure?							STATE ONLY AWARDS
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- 1. Idaho limits teacher contract terms to one year.
- A teacher can receive up to a 4-year contract if deemed proficient on evaluation
- Teachers must hold an educator license for at least seven years and have taught in the district at least three of the last five years.
- Teachers may also earn career status with an average rating of at least effective for a four-year period and a rating of at least effective for the last two years.
- While technically not on annual contracts, Rhode Island teachers who receive two years of ineffective ratings are dismissed.
- 6. Local school board may extend up to five years.
- 7. At a district's discretion, a teacher may be granted tenure after the second year if he/she receives one of the top two evaluation ratings.



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Connecticut and Michigan appropriately base tenure decisions on evidence of teacher effectiveness. In Connecticut, tenure is awarded after four years and must be earned on the basis of effective practice as demonstrated in evaluation ratings. Michigan requires a probationary period of five years, with teachers having to earn a rating of effective or highly effective on their three most recent performance evaluations. Both states require that student growth be the preponderant criterion of teacher evaluations.

^{3.} Oklahoma has created a loophole by essentially waiving student learning requirements and allowing the principal of a school to petition for career-teacher status.

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^{1.} Florida only awards annual contracts.

^{2.} North Carolina has recently eliminated tenure. The state requires some evidence of effectiveness in awarding multipleyear contracts.

→ Goal E – Licensure Advancement

The state should base licensure advancement on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should base advancement from a probationary to a nonprobationary license on evidence of effectiveness.
- 2. The state should not require teachers to fulfill generic, unspecified coursework requirements to advance from a probationary to a nonprobationary license.
- 3. The state should not require teachers to have an advanced degree as a condition of professional licensure.
- 4. Evidence of effectiveness should be a factor in the renewal of a professional licenses.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-E Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania's requirements for licensure advancement and renewal are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

To advance from an Instructional I certification to an Instructional II certification, teachers are required to complete a department-approved induction program as well as three years of teaching and 24 credit hours of collegiate study. In addition, each teacher must have three years of satisfactory ratings on semiannual evaluations. Pennsylvania is commended for publishing specific requirements for the rating tool to be used by districts as part of the state's evaluation system, which include evidence of student learning.

Pennsylvania does not include evidence of effectiveness as a factor in the renewal of a professional license. Once a teacher reaches Level II licensure, there appear to be no requirements for renewal.

Supporting Research

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/pa_certification/8635/level_i_to_level_ii/608790

Pennsylvania Code 49.83

Pennsylvania Code Title 22 Chapter 19.1

Forms 426 and 427

http://www.education.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/applications_for_certification/8649/level_i_to_level_ii_evaluation_forms/506765

RECOMMENDATION

■ Require evidence of effectiveness as a part of teacher licensing policy.

Pennsylvania is commended for using evidence of effectiveness from teacher evaluations as a factor in determining whether teachers advance to the next licensure level (see Goal 3-B). The state should ensure that certification requirements are fully aligned with new evaluation requirements. In addition, states must consider carefully how to use this evidence, as the standard for denying licensure—the right to practice in the state—should not necessarily be the same standard that might result in termination from a particular position.

In addition, Pennsylvania's current policy is compromised by the issuance of lifetime Level II licenses, with no requirements for renewal. While most states fail to connect evidence of teacher effectiveness to licensure renewal, Pennsylvania is exceptional in not requiring any renewal at all.

Discontinue licensure requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.

While targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, Pennsylvania's nonspecific coursework requirements for license advancement merely call for teachers to complete a certain amount of seat time. These requirements do not correlate with teacher effectiveness.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

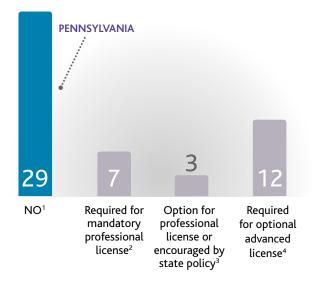
Pennsylvania was helpful in providing NCTQ with the facts necessary for this analysis.

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- 1. Evidence of effectiveness is required for license renewal but not for conferring of professional license.
- 2. Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.
- Maryland uses some objective evidence through their evaluation systems for renewal, but advancement to professional license is still based on earning an advanced degree.

Figure 79

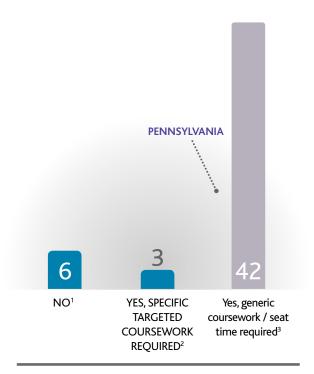
Do states require teachers to earn advanced degrees before conferring professional licensure?



- Strong Practice: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 2. Connecticut, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, New York and Oregon all require a master's degree or coursework equivalent to a master's degree.
- 3. Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri
- 4. Alabama, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia

Figure 80

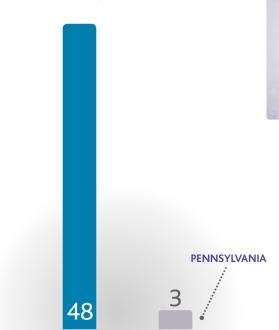
Do states require teachers to take additional coursework before conferring or renewing professional licenses?



- Strong Practice: Hawaii, Louisiana, New Jersey, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Tennessee
- 2. Strong Practice: California, Georgia, Minnesota
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina⁴, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. Some required coursework is targeted.

Figure 81

Do states award lifetime licenses?



Yes2

- Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut³, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 2. New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

 NO^1

3. Although teachers in Connecticut must renew their licenses every five years, there are no requirements for renewal.



Rhode Island is integrating certification, certification renewal and educator evaluations. Teachers who receive poor evaluations for five consecutive years are not eligible to renew their licenses. In addition, teachers who consistently receive "highly effective" ratings will be eligible for a special license designation.

→ Goal F — Equitable Distribution

The state should publicly report districts' distribution of teacher talent among schools to identify inequities in schools serving disadvantaged children.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should make aggregate school-level data about teacher performance —from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness as described in Goal 3-B publicly available.
- 2. In the absence of such an evaluation system, the state should make the following data publicly available:
 - a. An "Academic Quality" index for each school that includes factors research has found to be associated with teacher effectiveness such as:
 - · percentage of new teachers;
 - percentage of teachers failing basic skills licensure tests at least once;
 - percentage of teachers on emergency credentials:
 - average selectivity of teachers' undergraduate institutions and
 - teachers' average ACT or SAT scores
 - b. The percentage of highly qualified teachers disaggregated by both individual school and by teaching area.
 - c. The annual teacher absenteeism rate reported for the previous three years, disaggregated by individual school.
 - d. The average teacher turnover rate for the previous three years, disaggregated by individual school, by district and by reasons that teachers leave.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-F Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Meets Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Providing comprehensive reporting may be the state's most important role for ensuring the equitable distribution of teachers among schools. Pennsylvania reports school-level data that can help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent.

Pennsylvania requires districts to publicly report aggregate school-level data about teacher performance based on the state's teacher-evaluation system. The data show the percentage of teachers rated level 1 through 6. Level 1 is labeled unsatisfactory and level 6 is satisfactory.

The state also collects and publicly reports some of the other data recommended by NCTQ. Pennsylvania reports on the percentage of highly qualified teachers for each school, and each school is identified as either high- or low-poverty or neither. The state also reports the percentage of teachers with emergency certification in high- and low-poverty schools, as well as the average years of experience at the school level. Pennsylvania also reports a score denoting the average level of education for each position, but this is aggregated to the state level.

Pennsylvania does not report on teacher absenteeism or turnover rates.

Supporting Research

2012-2013 Pennsylvania School Performance Profile

http://paschoolperformance.org/Profile/6104

2011-2012 Professional Personnel Summary Public Schools Final

http://www.education.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/professional_and_support_personnel/7429 2012

Teacher and Principal Evaluations District Reports

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/teachers,_administrators_and_certifications/7199/p/1422663

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania was helpful in providing NCTQ with the facts necessary for this analysis.

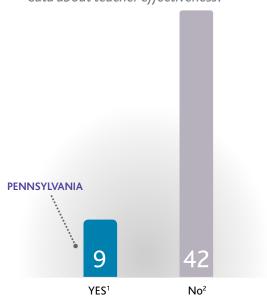
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TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Although not awarding "best practice" honors for this goal, NCTQ commends the nine states that meet the goal for giving the public access to teacher performance data aggregated to the school level. This transparency can help shine a light on on how equitably teachers are distributed across and within school districts and help to ensure that all students have access to effective teachers.

Figure 84 Do states publicly report school-level data about teacher effectiveness?

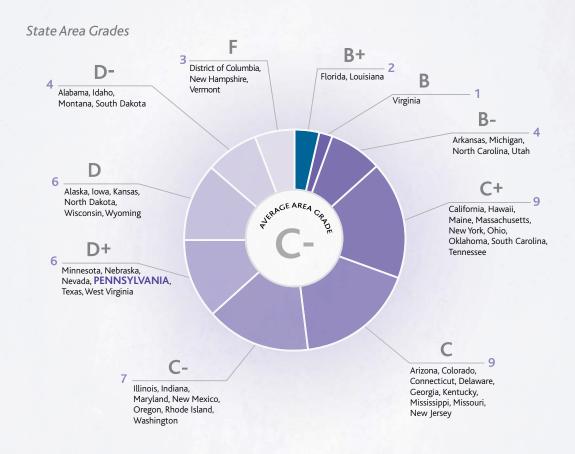


- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas³, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts⁴, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida⁵, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah⁵, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Reporting of teacher effectiveness data will begin in 2017.
- 4. Massachusetts' evaluation system is not based primarily on evidence of teacher effectiveness.
- 5. Reports data about teacher effectiveness at the district level.

Area 4 Summary



How States are Faring in Retaining Effective Teachers



Topics Included In This Area 4-A: Induction 4-D: Compensation for Prior Work Experience 4-B: Professional Development 4-E: Differential Pay 4-C: Pay Scales 4-F: Performance Pay

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal A - Induction

The state should require effective induction for all new teachers, with special emphasis on teachers in high-need schools.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should ensure that new teachers receive mentoring of sufficient frequency and duration, especially in the first critical weeks of school.
- Mentors should be carefully selected based on evidence of their own classroom effectiveness and subject-matter expertise. Mentors should be trained, and their performance as mentors should be evaluated.
- 3. Induction programs should include only strategies that can be successfully implemented, even in a poorly managed school. Such strategies include intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area, a reduced teaching load and frequent release time to observe effective teachers.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-A Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania requires that all new teachers receive mentoring. New teachers are required to participate in an induction program, which must include the assignment of a mentor. Local districts are required to formulate programs and submit them for approval by the state. "Criteria for approval of induction plans... must include induction activities that focus on teaching diverse learners in inclusive settings." Induction programs must be evaluated annually.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949: Title 22, Sections 49.16; 83 and Section 405.64

Educator Induction Plan Guidelines 2013

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/act_48_-_continuing_professional_education/8622

RECOMMENDATION

Set more specific parameters.

To ensure that all teachers receive high-quality mentoring, Pennsylvania should set a timeline in which mentors are assigned to all new teachers throughout the state, soon after the commencing of teaching, to offer support during those first critical weeks of school. Mentors should be required to be trained in a content area or grade level similar to that of the new teacher, and the state should mandate a method for performance evaluation.

Require induction strategies that can be successfully implemented, even in poorly managed schools.

To ensure that the experience is meaningful, the state should make certain that induction includes strategies such as intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area and a reduced teaching loan and/or frequent release time to observe other teachers.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis.

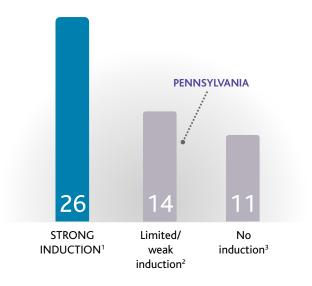
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T EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

South Carolina requires that all new teachers, prior to the start of the school year, be assigned mentors for at least one year. Districts carefully select mentors based on experience and similar certifications and grade levels, and mentors undergo additional training. Adequate release time is mandated by the state so that mentors and new teachers may observe each other in the classroom, collaborate on effective teaching techniques and develop professional growth plans. Mentor evaluations are mandatory and stipends are recommended.

Figure 87 Do states have policies that articulate the elements of effective induction?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia
- 2. Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

➤ Goal B – Professional Development

The state should ensure that teachers receive feedback about their performance and require professional development to be based on needs identified through teacher evaluations.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require that evaluation systems provide teachers with feedback about their performance.
- 2. The state should require that all teachers who receive a rating of ineffective/ unsatisfactory or needs improvement on their evaluations be placed on an improvement plan.
- 3. The state should direct districts to align professional development activities with findings from teachers' evaluations.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-B Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Meets a Small Part of Goal Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Full implementation of the Pennsylvania Educator Effectiveness system began in the 2013-2014 school year. The evaluation framework does not tie professional development to evaluation findings for all teachers. Teachers are provided a signed copy of their rating form. Teachers rated "needs improvement" or "failing" must participate in a performance improvement plan. The improvement plan includes, among other things, "recommendations for professional development... based on the contents of the rating tool."

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Code 351.21

Pennsylvania School Code Section 1123

HB 1901 (2012)

Educator Effectiveness Administrative Manual

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/educator_effectiveness_project/20903

http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol43/43-25/1115.html

RECOMMENDATION

Require that evaluation systems provide teachers with feedback about their performance.

In order to increase their effectiveness in the classroom, teachers need to receive feedback on strengths and areas that need improvement identified in their evaluations. As such, Pennsylvania should require that evaluation systems provide all teachers with feedback about their classroom performance, whether or not such information has been requested.

Ensure that professional development is aligned with findings from teachers' evaluations.

Professional development that is not informed by evaluation results may be of little value to teachers' professional growth and aim of increasing their effectiveness in the classroom. Pennsylvania should ensure that districts utilize teacher evaluation results in determining professional development needs and activities.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania indicated that the state has extensive resources for professional development on the Standards Aligned System (SAS) portal. The state noted that the resources have been reorganized around the four domains used in the educator effectiveness system so that the evaluator and teacher can refer to them when an area for growth or improvement is identified in the evaluation process. These resources are also designed for the plan of improvement, and the SAS portal provides professional development on the Danielson framework for all teachers on the meaning of the domains and components through short courses. The courses may be taken free of charge for improvement in an identified area or to increase knowledge in all of the domains.



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

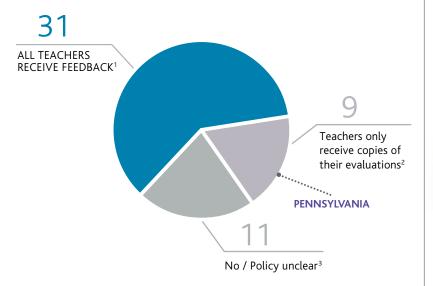
Louisiana and North Carolina require that teachers receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations and direct districts to connect professional development to teachers' identified needs. Both states also require that teachers with unsatisfactory evaluations are placed on structured improvement plans. These improvement plans include specific performance goals, a description of resources and assistance provided, as well as timelines for improvement.

- 1. Improvement plans are required for tenured teachers only.
- 2. Improvement plans are required only for teachers teaching for four years or more.
- 3. Wisconsin's educator effectiveness system includes many of these $\,$ elements, but is still in the pilot stage. Full implementation will not begin until 2014-2015.

Figure 89		EVALLATION MYORK	YENT TWCs
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Figure 90

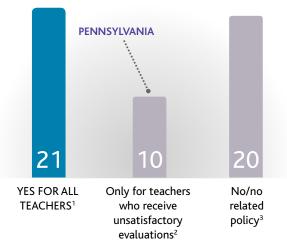
Do teachers receive feedback on their evaluations?



- Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 2. Alaska, California, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania
- 3. Alabama, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin⁴
- 4. Wisconsin's educator effectiveness system requires that teachers receive feedback, but it is still in the pilot stages. Full implementation will not begin until 2014-15.

Figure 91

Do states require that teacher evaluations inform professional development?



- Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 2. Alaska, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas
- Alabama, California, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin⁴
- Wisconsin's educator effectiveness system requires that evaluations inform professional development, but it is still in the pilot stages. Full implementation will not begin until 2014-15.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal C − Pay Scales

The state should give local districts authority over pay scales.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- While the state may find it appropriate to articulate teachers' starting salaries, it should not require districts to adhere to a statedictated salary schedule that defines steps and lanes and sets minimum pay at each level.
- 2. The state should discourage districts from tying additional compensation to advanced degrees. The state should eliminate salary schedules that establish higher minimum salaries or other requirements to pay more to teachers with advanced degrees.
- 3. The state should discourage salary schedules that imply that teachers with the most experience are the most effective. The state should eliminate salary schedules that require that the highest steps on the pay scale be determined solely be seniority.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-C Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania does not address salary requirements, seemingly giving local districts the authority for pay scales and eliminating barriers such as state salary schedules and other regulations that control how districts pay teachers.

RECOMMENDATION

■ Discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees.

While still leaving districts the flexibility to establish their own pay scale, Pennsylvania should articulate policies that definitively discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees, in light of the extensive research showing that such degrees do not have an impact on teacher effectiveness.

Discourage salary schedules that imply that teachers with the most experience are the most effective.

Similarly, Pennsylvania should articulate policies that discourage districts from determining the highest steps on the pay scale solely by seniority.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Florida and Indiana allow local districts to develop their own salary schedules while preventing districts from prioritizing elements not associated with teacher effectiveness. In Florida, local salary schedules must ensure that the most effective teachers receive salary increases greater than the highest salary adjustment available. Indiana requires local salary scales to be based on a combination of factors and limits the years of teacher experience and content-area degrees to account for no more than one-third of this calculation.

^{2.} Rhode Island requires that local district salary schedules are based on years of service, experience and training.

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play in deciding teacher	Š	<u>}</u>	
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^{1.} Colorado gives districts the option of a salary schedule, a performance pay policy or a combination of both.

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- 1. For advanced degrees earned after April 2014.
- $\begin{tabular}{ll} 2. Rhode Island requires local district salary schedules to include teacher "training". \end{tabular}$
- 3. Texas has a minimum salary schedule based on years of experience. Compensation for advanced degrees is left to district discretion.
- 4. Beginning in 2015-2016.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

▶ Goal D – Compensation for Prior Work Experience

The state should encourage districts to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience.

Goal Component

(The factor considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

 The state should encourage districts to compensate new teachers with relevant prior work experience through mechanisms such as starting these teachers at an advanced step on the pay scale. Further, the state should not have regulatory language that blocks such strategies.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-D Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania does not encourage local districts to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience. However, the state does not seem to have regulatory language blocking such strategies.

RECOMMENDATION

■ Encourage local districts to compensate new teachers with relevant prior work experience.

While still leaving districts with the flexibility to determine their own pay scales, Pennsylvania should encourage districts to incorporate mechanisms such as starting these teachers at a higher salary than other new teachers. Such policies would be attractive to career changers with related work experience, such as in the STEM subjects.

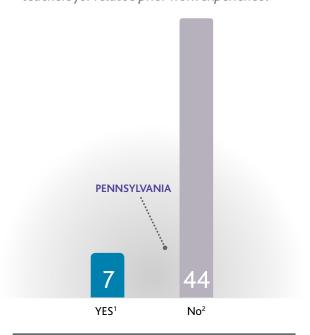
PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

North Carolina compensates new teachers with relevant prior-work experience by awarding them one year of experience credit for every year of full-time work after earning a bachelor's degree that is related to their area of licensure and work assignment. One year of credit is awarded for every two years of work experience completed prior to earning a bachelor's degree.

Figure 96

Do states direct districts to compensate teachers for related prior work experience?



- 1. Strong Practice: California, Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Texas, Washington
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii³, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Hawaii's compensation is limited to prior military experience.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal E − Differential Pay

The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in shortage and high-need areas.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in shortage subject areas.
- 2. The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in high-need schools.
- 3. The state should not have regulatory language that would block differential pay.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-E Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania supports differential pay by which a teacher can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subjects. Mathematics and science teachers can receive stipends between \$1,500 and \$5,000 and are eligible for a loan-forgiveness program.

Pennsylvania also supports the Urban and Rural Forgiveness Program, which provides loan forgiveness for those teaching in high-need schools.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Code 121.201-207; 121.151-160

RECOMMENDATION

Expand differential pay initiatives for teachers in high-need schools.

Although the state's loan program is a desirable recruitment and retention tool for teachers early in their careers, Pennsylvania should expand its program to include those who are already part of the teaching pool. A salary differential is an attractive incentive for every teacher, not just those with educational debt.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 98		HIGH NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	
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Maryland offers tuition reimbursement for teacher retraining in specified shortage subject areas and offers a stipend for alternate route candidates teaching in subject shortage areas.

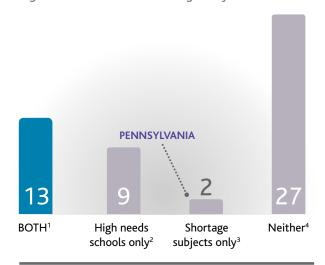
^{2.} South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in high-need schools.



TEXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

Georgia supports differential pay by which teachers can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subjects. The state is especially commended for its compensation strategy for math and science teachers, which moves teachers along the salary schedule rather just providing a bonus or stipend. The state also supports differential pay initiatives to link compensation more closely with district needs and to achieve a more equitable distribution of teachers.

Figure 99 Do states support differential pay for teaching in high need schools and shortage subjects?



- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia
- 2. Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Pennsylvania, Utah
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal F − Performance Pay

The state should support performance pay, but in a manner that recognizes its appropriate uses and limitations.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should support performance pay efforts, rewarding teachers for their effectiveness in the classroom.
- 2. The state should allow districts flexibility to define the criteria for performance pay provided that such criteria connect to evidence of student achievement.
- 3. Any performance pay plan should allow for the participation of all teachers, not just those in tested subjects and grades.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-F Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania does not support performance pay. The state does not have any policies in place that offer teachers additional compensation based on evidence of effectiveness.

RECOMMENDATION

- Support a performance pay plan that recognizes teachers for their effectiveness.
 - Whether it implements the plan at the state or local level, Pennsylvania should ensure that performance pay structures thoughtfully measure classroom performance and connect student achievement to teacher effectiveness. The plan must be developed with careful consideration of available data and subsequent issues of fairness.
- Consider piloting performance pay in a select number of school districts.

This would provide an opportunity to discover and correct any limitations in available data or methodology before implementing the plan on a wider scale.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 101	PERFORMANCE FACTORD	PERCORMANCE BONUES	Performance pay pemint.	State supported perfection	egue /
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****** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

An increasing number of states are supporting performance pay initiatives. Florida and **Indiana** are particularly noteworthy for their efforts to build performance into the salary schedule. Rather than award bonuses, teachers' salaries will be based in part on their performance in the classroom.

^{1.} Nebraska's initiative does not go into effect until 2016.

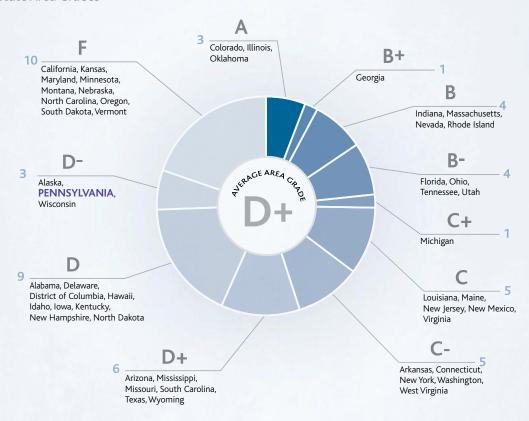
^{2.} Nevada's initiative does not go into effect until 2015-2016.

Area 5 Summary



How States are Faring in Exiting Ineffective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- **5-A: Extended Emergency Licenses**
- 5-B: Dismissal for Poor Performance
- 5-C: Reductions in Force

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal A − Extended Emergency Licenses

The state should close loopholes that allow teachers who have not met licensure requirements to continue teaching.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- Under no circumstances should a state award a standard license to a teacher who has not passed all required subject-matter licensing tests.
- 2. If a state finds it necessary to confer conditional or provisional licenses under limited and exceptional circumstances to teachers who have not passed the required tests, the state should ensure that requirements are met within one year.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



5-A Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania allows individuals who have not met the state's minimum standards for licensure to teach on emergency permits that expire the last day of summer school in the year they were issued. The state will issue an emergency permit to individuals who hold a bachelor's degree if no qualified teachers can be found for the position. The permit may be renewed if the applicant has completed nine semester hours in a state-approved teacher preparation program. An emergency permit may be issued up to an additional two years to enable the individual to complete and pass all testing requirements for full state certification.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania Emergency Permit

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/pa_certification/8635/emergency_permits/977759

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that all teachers pass required subject-matter licensing tests before they enter the classroom.

All students are entitled to teachers who know the subject matter they are teaching. Permitting individuals who have not yet passed state licensing tests to teach neglects the needs of students, instead extending personal consideration to adults who may not be able to meet minimal state standards. Pennsylvania should ensure that all teachers pass licensing tests—an important minimum benchmark for entering the profession—before entering the classroom.

Limit exceptions to one year.

There might be limited and exceptional circumstances under which conditional or emergency licenses need to be granted. In these instances, it is reasonable for a state to give teachers up to one year to pass required licensing tests. Pennsylvania's current policy puts students at risk by allowing teachers to teach on an emergency permit for up to three years without passing required licensing tests.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

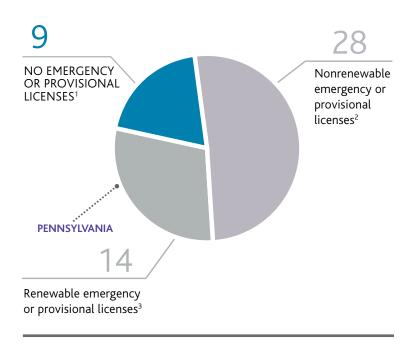
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Colorado, **Illinois**, **Mississippi**, and **New Jersey** require all new teachers to pass all required subject-matter tests as a condition of initial licensure.

Figure 104

Do states still award emergency licenses?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alaska⁴, Colorado, Illinois, Mississippi, Montana⁵, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina
- Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota⁶, Ohio⁶, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island⁶, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Arizona, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin
- 4. Alaska does not require subject-matter testing for initial certification.
- 5. Montana does not require subject-matter testing for certification.
- 6. License is renewable, but only if licensure tests are passed.

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal B − Dismissal for Poor Performance

The state should articulate that ineffective classroom performance is grounds for dismissal and ensure that the process for terminating ineffective teachers is expedient and fair to all parties.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should articulate that teachers may be dismissed for ineffective classroom performance. Any teacher that receives two consecutive ineffective evaluations or two such ratings within five years should be formally eligible for dismissal, regardless of tenure status.
- A teacher who is terminated for poor performance should have an opportunity to appeal. In the interest of both the teacher and the school district, the state should ensure that this appeal occurs within a reasonable time frame.
- 3. There should be a clear distinction between the process and accompanying due process rights for teachers dismissed for classroom ineffectiveness and the process and accompanying due process rights for teachers dismissed or facing license revocation for felony or morality violations or dereliction of duties.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy

How States are Faring in Dismissal for Poor Performance **Best Practice States** Florida, Oklahoma State Meets Goal Indiana States Nearly Meet Goal Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee 20 States Partly Meet Goal Alaska ↑, Arizona ↑, Arkansas ↑, Connecticut ↑, Delaware, Georgia 1, Louisiana 1, Maine 1, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey 1, New Mexico 1, Ohio, PENNSYLVANIA 1, Virginia ↑, Washington ↑, West Virginia ↑, Wisconsin, Wyoming States Meet a Small Part of Goal Idaho 1, Minnesota 1, New Hampshire, North Carolina 1, Utah 17 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, California, District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont Progress on this Goal Since 2011: **1**: 16 **←**: 35 **↓**:0

5-B Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Pennsylvania makes teacher ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal. A teacher receiving two consecutive teacher evaluation ratings of unsatisfactory is eligible for dismissal. However, the state does not distinguish the due process rights of teachers dismissed for ineffective performance from those facing other charges commonly associated with license revocation, such as a felony and/or morality violations. In fact, Pennsylvania does not articulate other specific grounds for termination of teachers' contracts.

Tenured teachers who are terminated have multiple opportunities to appeal. After receiving written notice of dismissal, the teacher may request a hearing within 30 days. The hearing officer must render a decision within 60 days after the hearing's conclusion. This decision may be appealed to the Pennsylvania Professional Standards and Practices Commission, which must issue its decision within 45 days.

Supporting Research

Pennsylvania School Code Section 1122 Pennsylvania Code Title 22, 233.115-118; 351.26

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that teachers terminated for poor performance have the opportunity to appeal within a reasonable time frame.

Nonprobationary teachers who are dismissed for any grounds, including ineffectiveness, are entitled to due process. However, cases that drag on for years drain resources from school districts and create a disincentive for districts to attempt to terminate poor performers. Therefore, Pennsylvania must ensure that the opportunity to appeal occurs only once and only at the district level. It is in the best interest of both the teacher and the district that a conclusion is reached within a reasonable time frame.

 Distinguish the process and accompanying due process rights between dismissal for classroom ineffectiveness and dismissal for morality violations, felonies or dereliction of duty.

While nonprobationary teachers should have due process for any termination, it is important to differentiate between loss of employment and issues with far-reaching consequences that could permanently affect a teacher's right to practice. Pennsylvania should ensure that appeals related to class-room effectiveness are only decided only by those with educational expertise.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

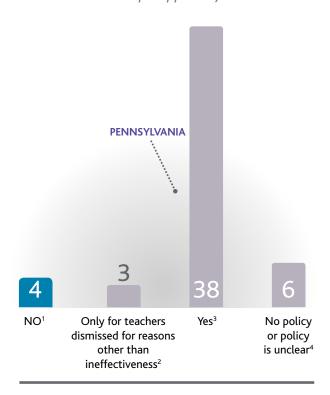
Florida and Oklahoma clearly articulate that teacher ineffectiveness in the classroom is grounds for dismissal. In both states, teachers are eligible for dismissal after two annual ratings of unsatisfactory performance. Each state has taken steps to ensure that the dismissal process for teachers deemed to be ineffective is expedited. Teachers facing dismissal have only one opportunity to appeal.

Figure 106 Do states articulate that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal? Alabama Alaska Arizona П Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut П Delaware П District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii П Idaho П Illinois П Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi П Missouri Montana П Nebraska Nevada П New Hampshire П New Jersey New Mexico П New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon **PENNSYLVANIA** Rhode Island П South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah П Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 29 22

^{1.} A teacher reverts to probationary status after two consecutive years of unsatisfactory evaluations, but it is not articulated that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.

Figure 107

Do states allow multiple appeals of teacher dismissals?



- 1. Strong Practice: Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Wisconsin
- 2. Teachers in these states revert to probationary status following ineffective evaluation ratings, meaning that they no longer have the due process right to multiple appeals: Colorado, Indiana, Tennessee
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 4. District of Columbia, Maine, Nebraska, Nevada⁵, Utah, Vermont
- 5. Though a teacher returns to probationary status after two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations, Nevada does not articulate clear policy about its appeals process.

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal C − Reductions in Force

The state should require that its school districts consider classroom performance as a factor in determining which teachers are laid off when a reduction in force is necessary.

Goal Component

(The factor considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

1. The state should require that districts consider classroom performance and ensure that seniority is not the only factor used to determine which teachers are laid off.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



5-C Analysis: Pennsylvania



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

In Pennsylvania, seniority is the sole factor used to determine which teachers are laid off during reductions in force. When layoffs occur, they are made on the "inverse order of seniority within the school entity of current employment."

Supporting Research

Sections 11-1124 and 11-1125.1 of the Public School Code of Pennsylvania

RECOMMENDATION

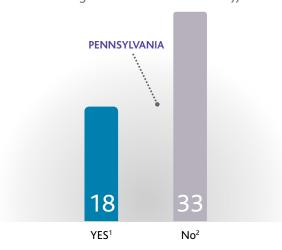
- Require that districts consider classroom performance as a factor in determining which teachers are laid off during reductions in force.
 - Pennsylvania can still leave districts flexibility in determining layoff policies, but it should do so within a framework that ensures that classroom performance is considered.
- Ensure that seniority is not the only factor used to determine which teachers are laid off.

 Although it may be useful for the state to consider seniority among other criteria, Pennsylvania's current policy puts adult interests before student needs.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 109

Do districts have to consider performance in determining which teachers are laid off?



- Strong Practice: Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts³, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio³, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington
- Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Tenure is considered first.

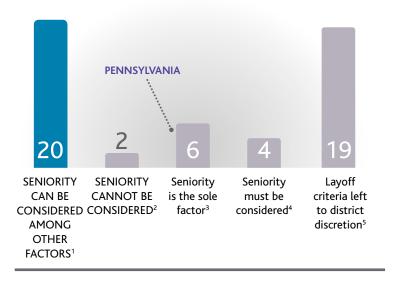
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Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	18	22



Colorado, **Florida**, and **Indiana** all specify that in determining which teachers to lay off during a reduction in force, classroom performance is the top criterion. These states also articulate that seniority can only be considered after a teacher's performance is taken into account.

Figure 111

Do states prevent districts from overemphasizing seniority in layoff decisions?



- Strong Practice: Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts⁶, Michigan, Missouri⁶, Nevada, New Hampshire, Ohio⁶, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington
- 2. Strong Practice: Louisiana, Utah
- 3. Hawaii, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin⁷
- 4. California, Kentucky, New Jersey, Oregon
- 5. Alabama, Alaska⁶, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska⁶, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming
- 6. Nontenured teachers are laid off first.
- 7. Only for counties with populations of 500,000 or more and for teachers hired before 1995.

Goals and Keywords

GOAL	STATEMENT	KEY WORDS
	AREA 1: Delivering Well Prepared Te	achers
1-A: Admission into Teacher Preparation	The state should require teacher preparation programs to admit only candidates with strong academic records.	admission requirements, academic proficiency measures, basic skills tests, GPA
1-B: Elementary Teacher Preparation	The state should ensure that its teacher preparation programs provide elementary teachers with a broad liberal arts education, providing the necessary foundation for teaching to the Common Core or similar state standards.	license/certification, elementary teachers, early childhood teachers, content tests, elementary coursework/standards, content specialization requirements
1-C: Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction	The state should ensure that new elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction.	license/certification, elementary teachers, early childhood teachers, science of reading tests, science of reading coursework/standards
1-D: Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics	The state should ensure that new elementary teachers have sufficient knowledge of the mathematics content taught in elementary grades.	license/certification, elementary teachers, early childhood teachers, math content tests, math coursework/standards
1-E: Middle School Teacher Preparation	The state should ensure that middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.	license/certification, middle school teachers, content tests, K-8 licenses, content specialization requirements
1-F: Secondary Teacher Preparation	The state should ensure that secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate gradelevel content.	license/certification, secondary teachers, secondary social studies, content tests, endorsements
1-G: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science	The state should ensure that secondary science teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	license/certification, secondary general science, content tests, combination sciences
1-H: Special Education Teacher Preparation	The state should ensure that special education teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	license/certification, special education teachers, content tests, K-12 special education license, elementary special education, secondary special education
1-I: Assessing Professional Knowledge	The state should use a licensing test to verify that all new teachers meet its professional standards.	license/certification, pedagogy, professional standards/knowledge, performance assessments, edTPA
1-J: Student Teaching	The state should ensure that teacher preparation programs provide teacher candidates with a high quality clinical experience.	student teaching, cooperating teachers, clinical preparation, placements
1-K: Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	The state's approval process for teacher preparation programs should hold programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce.	teacher preparation programs, program accountability, student achievement, standard of performance, public reporting national accreditation

Goals and Keywords

GOAL	STATEMENT	KEY WORDS
	AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching I	Pool
2-A: Alternate Route Eligibility	The state should require alternate route programs to exceed the admission requirements of traditional preparation programs while also being flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.	alternate route programs, admission requirements, GPA, academic proficiency measures, subject-matter test, flexibility/test-out
2-B: Alternate Route Preparation	The state should ensure that its alternate routes provide efficient preparation that is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers, as well as adequate mentoring and support.	alternate route programs, coursework requirements, length of program, student/ practice teaching, induction, mentoring
2-C: Alternate Route Usage and Providers	The state should provide an alternate route that is free from limitations on its usage and allows a diversity of providers.	alternate routes; subject, grade or geographic restrictions; college or university providers; district-run programs; non-profit providers
2-D: Part-Time Teaching Licenses	The state should offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time.	part-time license/certificate, adjunct license
2-E: Licensure Reciprocity	The state should help to make licenses fully portable among states, with appropriate safeguards.	license reciprocity, license portability, out-of-state teachers, testing requirements, online teachers
	AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teac	hers
3-A: State Data Systems	The state should have a data system that contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness.	longitudinal data systems, definition of teacher of record, teacher production
3-B: Evaluation of Effectiveness	The state should require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.	teacher evaluation, teacher effectiveness, student learning, classroom observations, surveys, rating categories
3-C: Frequency of Evaluations	The state should require annual evaluations of all teachers.	teacher evaluation, evaluation frequency, classroom observations, feedback
3-D: Tenure	The state should require that tenure decisions are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.	tenure, probationary period, continuing contracts, teacher effectiveness
3-E: Licensure Advancement	The state should base licensure advancement on evidence of teacher effectiveness.	probationary license, professional license, license renewal, evidence of teacher effectiveness, coursework requirements
3-F: Equitable Distribution	The state should publicly report districts' distribution of teacher talent among schools to identify inequities in schools serving disadvantaged children.	public reporting, aggregate school-level data, evaluation ratings, school report cards, teacher absenteeism rate, turnover rate

Goals and Keywords

GOAL	STATEMENT	KEY WORDS
	AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teacl	hers
4-A: Induction	The state should require effective induction for all new teachers, with special emphasis on teachers in high-need schools.	mentoring, induction, mentor selection, reduced teaching load, release time
4-B: Professional Development	The state should ensure that teachers receive feedback about their performance and should require professional development to be based on needs identified through teacher evaluations.	feedback from observations/evaluations, professional development linked to evaluations results, improvement plans
1-C : Pay Scales	The state should give local districts authority over pay scales.	teacher compensation, salary schedules, pay scales, steps and lanes, advanced degrees, years of experience, teacher performance
4-D: Compensation for Prior Work Experience	The state should encourage districts to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience.	teacher compensation, relevant work experience
4-E : Differential Pay	The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in shortage and high-need areas.	teacher compensation, differential pay, shortage subject areas, high-need schoo
4-F: Performance Pay	The state should support performance pay, but in a manner that recognizes its appropriate uses and limitations.	teacher compensation, performance pay, teacher performance, student achievement
	AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teach	ners
5-A: Extended Emergency Licenses	The state should close loopholes that allow teachers who have not met licensure requirements to continue teaching.	emergency licenses, provisional certificates, loopholes, subject-matter tests
5-B: Dismissal for Poor Performance	The state should articulate that ineffective classroom performance is grounds for dismissal and ensure that the process for terminating ineffective teachers is expedient and fair to all parties.	dismissal, ineffectiveness, poor performance, appeals, due process
5-C: Reductions in Force	The state should require that its school districts consider classroom performance as a factor in determining which teachers are laid off when a reduction in force is necessary.	reduction in force, layoffs, teacher performance, seniority

Teacher Policy Priorities for Pennsylvania

AREA 1: Delivering Well Prepared Teachers	
Require that teacher preparation programs screen candidates prior to admission by using a common test normed to the general college-bound population, and limit acceptance to those candidates demonstrating academic ability in the top 50th percentile.	Goal 1-A
Adopt an elementary content test with independently scored subject-matter subtests in each of the core areas.	Goal 1-E
Require all elementary teacher candidates to pass a rigorous stand-alone science of reading test.	Goal 1-0
Adopt a rigorous stand-alone math test for all elementary teacher candidates.	Goal 1-E
Specifically require secondary science and social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.	Goal 1-I Goal 1-C
Ensure that both elementary and secondary special education teachers possess adequate and appropriate content knowledge for the grades and subjects they teach.	Goal 1-H
Require all new teachers to pass a pedagogy test.	Goal 1-
Ensure that cooperating teachers for student teaching placements have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning.	Goal 1-
Hold teacher preparation programs accountable by collecting data that connect student achievement gains to programs, as well as other meaningful data that reflect program performance, and by establishing the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.	Goal 1-l
	NEW L
AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool	
Increase admission requirements to alternate route programs, including a high bar for academic proficiency.	Goal 2-A
Establish guidelines for alternate route programs that require preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers. Ensure programs provide intensive induction support to alternate route teachers.	Goal 2-E
Eliminate licensure obstacles for out-of-state teachers.	Goal 2-I
AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers	
Develop the capacity of the state data system to ensure its ability to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.	Goal 3-
Ensure that evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.	Goal 3-I

AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers		
■ Require effective induction for all new teachers, especially in the first critical weeks of school.	Goal 4-A	
■ Link professional development activities to findings in individual teacher evaluations.	Goal 4-B	
■ Discourage districts from basing teacher pay scales primarily on advanced degrees and seniority.	Goal 4-C	
Support performance pay to recognize teachers for their effectiveness.	Goal 4-F	

AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers		
■ Ensure that all teachers pass required subject-matter licensing tests before they enter the classroom.	Goal 5-A	
Eliminate seniority as the sole factor used to determine which teachers are laid off during a reduction in force, and make ineffective classroom performance grounds for dismissal.	Goal 5-C	

